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DRAFT
MEDIUM-TERM PLAN
1992-1997

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draft Medium-term Plan, 1992-1997

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INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with the relevant parts of the regulations and rules governing the programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules 1 (1)(e)), the draft programme on Regional Co-operation for Economic Development in Africa of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 to be carried out by the Economic Commission for Africa is submitted herewith to the Ad hoc Committee established by the ECA Conference of Ministers to examine and make recommendations on the draft.

2. It should be recalled that upon the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in 1987, the General Assembly, in its resolution 42/215, extended the current medium-term plan (i.e., 1984-1989) until 1991, on the condition that the next medium-term plan be improved in its format, content and presentation. Following further recommendations by the Committee in 1988, in the context of its review of the draft introduction to the next medium-term plan (A/43/329) and of the proposed calendar of consultations for the preparation of that plan (A/43/329/Add.1), the General Assembly, in its resolution 43/219 of 21 December 1988, took, inter alia, due to further relevant decisions, the next medium-term plan of the United Nations shall cover the period 1992-1997, the intergovernmental bodies are invited, when considering in 1989 the pertinent portions of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, to give due attention to the most appropriate structure for the major programme or major programmes, programmes and subprogrammes submitted for their consideration, as compared with the current structure and in the light of an analysis of the objectives, trends and general orientations derived from the mandates of the intergovernmental bodies, to be provided by the Secretary-General.

3. The preliminary proposals of the Secretary-General on the new structure of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 were contained in paragraphs 33 to 35 of the draft introduction to that plan (A/43/329, annex). They were aimed at regrouping the number of major programmes and programmes in the current medium-term plan from respectively 31 to 1 and 148 to about 40. Subsequently, an updated revised programme structure and additional information, taking into account the comments of member States in the Committee for Programme Co-ordination and the Economic and Social Council and the results of the consultations on the subject undertaken within the Secretariat, were provided to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly at its forty-third session in a conference room paper (A/C.5/43/CRP.4) which is available to the Ad hoc Committee as a background document.

4. To assist the Ad hoc Committee in its consideration of the draft programme on Regional Co-operation for Development in Africa in all its aspects, it will also have before it the draft introduction to the next medium-term plan (A/43/329) and the relevant parts of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its twenty-eighth session (A/43/16, Part II).

5. In the current medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (extended to 1991), activities carried out by the Economic Commission for Africa are derived from 15 separate major programmes and included under 15 programmes and 49 subprogrammes. These programmes and subprogrammes do not of course include activities of a supportive nature and services which, while they do not fall within the programme structure of the current Medium-term Plan, are included as programmes and subprogrammes in the programme budget documents. The activities concerned include executive direction and management, conference services, management of technical co-operation activities and administration and common services. Together they make up 4 and 13 additional programmes and subprogrammes respectively. In the new programme structure proposed for the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997,

both substantive and programme support activities would be covered and the corresponding activities to be carried out by the Economic Commission for Africa would be included under one major programme, major programme VI, regional co-operation for economic and social development, and under one programme, Programme 33 which is made up of 33 subprogrammes. The new programme structure does not imply the elimination of mandated activities. As indicated in the draft introduction to the next plan and in the PPBA referred to above, the proposed new programme and subprogramme structures are intended to correct some of the main deficiencies of the current plan and to make the new plan more transparent and less esoteric than it is currently for the intergovernmental bodies dealing with specific substantive issues. This would hopefully facilitate the interaction between these organs and those having a central responsibility for planning, programming and budgeting. It would also provide the programme managers with an opportunity to review in-depth their programmes so as to assess what has been done, and how it was done, to set objectives which are both feasible and acceptable to member States as a whole and to propose appropriate strategies for achieving these objectives. The ultimate objective is to have the plan fulfilling its double role as the principal policy directive of the United Nations and as one of the operational instruments for an integrated management process of the activities undertaken by the United Nations, the other instruments being the programme budget, the reports on programme performance and the evaluation reports.

6. The draft programme of the next medium-term plan to be carried out by the Economic Commission for Africa submitted herewith is divided into two main parts. The first is entitled 'Overall orientations and objectives of the programme'. The second part presents the draft programme in terms of 33 subprogrammes.

7. The next medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 will be implemented for the first time through the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. In presenting this draft programme, it has been assumed that the reforms within the United Nations launched by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 would have been finalized by that time, that the financial crisis confronting the Organization would be an episode of the past and that, in addition to the regular budget resources, appropriate and predictable extrabudgetary resources would also be available. Should these assumptions be proven to be wrong, revisions to the plan shall be necessary in order to reflect the existing conditions.

8. The current medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (extended to 1991) does not include designation of priorities among the relevant subprogrammes. In accordance with the regulations and rules on programme planning, such designation of priorities by the competent intergovernmental bodies is required. The General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213, 42/219 re-emphasized such a role. The Ad hoc Committee is accordingly invited to consider which among the subprogrammes proposed, it would accord the highest priority and which the lowest priority. In doing so one may bear in mind the priority sectors designated in the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) which include food and agriculture, other sectors in support of agriculture, drought and desertification, human resources development, planning and utilization, and policy reforms. By their own actions and decisions at various intergovernmental meetings held recently, Member States have also stressed the need to pay special attention to such other areas as economic co-operation and integration, environment, natural resources especially water and mineral resources, and social development. Furthermore, in considering this issue of priority setting among subprogrammes, it should also be borne in mind that the medium-term plan can be revised every other year. Thus, at the twenty-seventh session of the Commission/eighteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers in 1992, the

Commission will have the opportunity to revise the content and the structure of the programme as well as the priorities among subprogrammes.

9. Recommendations made by the Ad hoc Committee will be taken into account by the Secretary-General in revising this draft for submission to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, in 1990. The format and content of the narrative of the draft programme are preliminary and might change when this draft is revised. As in the case with the programme budget, the approval of the medium-term plan is a prerogative of the General Assembly.

Points of discussion

10. Bearing in mind the information provided above, the Ad hoc Committee may wish to provide comments and proposals on:

(a) The objectives and strategies proposed for the forthcoming medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 as well as the changes proposed in the subprogramme structure and the number of subprogrammes;

(b) The priority among the proposed subprogrammes in accordance with Regulations 3.15 and 3.16 of the PPBME Regulations and Rules and in the light of the relevant parts of the Secretary-General's draft introduction to the next medium-term plan; and

(c) The new activities proposed for the forthcoming medium-term plan.

PART I. OVERALL ORIENTATION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

1. General mandates, orientations and objectives of the programme

11. During the decade of the 1980s the effects of aggravating factors such as, on the domestic front, the impact of unprecedented droughts, an average rate population growth far in excess of the rate of increase in food production, and deficient economic management policies generally, and on the external front, the collapse in the prices of commodities of export interest to Africa, deteriorating terms of trade, a declining trend in the flow in real terms of official development assistance, widespread protectionism, high interest rates, currency fluctuations and a heavy debt and debt- servicing burden, among other things, were superimposed on, and compounded the debilitating effects of Africa's long-standing underlying fragile socio-economic structures. Africa therefore constituted a very weak link in the chain of global economic relations and became in effect the priority region for United Nations attention and action as the fundamental issue in the region became survival and recovery.

12. A series of resolute policy initiatives were taken by the African Governments in partnership with the international community in the latter part of the decade of the 1980s to redress the situation and relaunch the initiative for long-term growth and socio-economic diversification as reflected in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER),[1] the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD),[2]

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[1] A/40/666.

[2] A/S-13/2, annex.

the Khartoum Declaration: Towards a Human-focused Approach to Socio-economic Recovery and Development in Africa,[3] the Niamey Declaration on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary celebration of the Economic Commission for Africa[4] and the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP).[5]

13. The policy decisions contained in these documents were, of course, designed to accelerate the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action for the implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa, 1980-2000 and the Final Act of Lagos.[6] The women component of the Lagos Plan of Action, as is well known, was substantially reinforced by the policies adopted within the framework of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace. While the Decade for Women ended in 1985, the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women adopted in that year are meant to carry beyond that Decade the policies adopted to intensify the advancement of women in the development process.

14. As was obvious from the mid-term review and appraisal of the implementation of the UN-PAAERD conducted by the General Assembly at its forty-third session in 1988, what has so far been gained within the framework of the implementation of the programme in terms of African economic and social recovery and growth as basis for the accelerated structural transformation and development of the African economies as envisaged in the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos, can only be considered as useful and substantial beginnings. The pursuit of the goals and objectives of the UN-PAAERD as with those of all the other regionally agreed strategies and approaches identified and applied in the past few years and contained in the intergovernmental documents cited above must continue well into the 1990s. Accordingly, together, these goals and objectives constitute the general legislative basis for the Medium-term Plan for the programme, Regional Co-operation for Development in Africa. There are, of course, the various resolutions and decisions of the Commission, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly which are also reflected in the orientation of the programme.

15. It has become increasingly clear that the basic problem facing African economies is that of initiating and sustaining viable economic and social development processes. Thus, as asserted in the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation, while measures must be taken to deal with short-term problems of internal and external imbalances such as budget and balance-of-payments deficits, these measures should be taken within the framework of the long-term objectives of socio-economic recovery and transformation. The major challenge during the 1990s will, therefore, be to bring about economic diversification and self-sustaining growth through fundamental changes in socio-economic structures based on the purposeful enhancement of basic economic and social infrastructures, especially physical capital, research capabilities, technological know-how, the judicious combination and use of human resources, natural resources and know-how. Such enhancement, combination and use will be underpinned by a growing mutual interaction among the

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[3] Commission resolution 631 (XXIII), annex.

[4] E/1988/37, E/ECA/CM.14/42, annex III.

[5] E/ECA/CM.15/6/Rev.3.

[6] A/S-11/14 annexes I and II.

various sectors and a progressive expansion and rationalization of domestic markets through greater national and regional economic integration.

16. Already, the international community has itself realized that lasting solutions to the serious exogenous constraints over which Africa has no control will have to be found since their persistence will impede the efforts of the African countries. For this regional strategy to be effectively pursued and implemented, therefore, the responsibility of the international community with respect to the compact it entered into with the African countries within the framework of the UN-PAAERD must be respected and sustained well into the 1990s. Thus during the Medium-term Plan, intensified and much-improved international co-operation including substantially increased flows of external resources on a predictable and assured basis and effective measures aimed at alleviating the excruciating debt burden will be particularly significant in enabling African countries to make the necessary break away from the clutches of underdevelopment. In this connection, too, the maintenance of a substantially improved external environment characterized by improved aid and technical assistance modalities, a sustained, equitable and non-inflationary growth, liberal trade policies and improved market access especially for tropical products and manufactures from third world countries will be desirable.

17. In the specific areas of activity, the challenge to the United Nations and the Economic Commission for Africa in particular is daunting. In the area of the acquisition, development and rational utilization of critical factor inputs required to sustain a dynamic and diversified process of development and growth, human resources planning development and utilization must be retained as a priority of the first order with a view to enhancing the capacities of all population groups including especially farming communities and ensuring the increased supply of middle- and high-level skilled manpower and technologists required especially for the conversion of domestic industrial raw materials into semi-finished and finished products. In this regard, attention will be paid to the critical role of entrepreneurial resources especially as it relates to the transfer and development of technology and to the problem of mass unemployment. The employment question will itself have to be perceived and addressed in terms of the factors determining population growth and composition and the incorporation of these factors in planning and programming processes for raising living standards generally. An essential component of activity in this area will be a substantially expanded programme for the integration of women especially rural women in development with increased emphasis on the promotion of employment, productive resources and income for women, and women's participation in decision-making, in the industrialization process and in the informal sector.

18. In the desired processes of growth and diversification, the hub of the wheel is, of course, the application of human resources, skills and know-how to natural resources to produce the various needs of the population. In this connection, African Governments will need enhanced assistance for the expansion of capabilities at the national, subregional and regional levels for the exploration, assessment, extraction and utilization of the region's known and potential abundant endowment in natural resources including minerals, surface and sub-surface water, energy resources, forests, the mineral and living resources of the sea, livestock, etc. An essential component of this assistance will be support in negotiations with private, foreign and indigenous corporations. The need to strengthen the science and technology base including cartography and remote sensing will be particularly crucial in this area particularly with respect to raising the level of effectiveness of the scientific and technological infrastructure, developing the manpower requirements implied in the concepts of technology transfer and adaptation

as they relate to the needs and targets in the various sectors and improving the institutional base for research and development with a view to enhancing the local impact and relevance of research and development.

19. There is now no doubt that the near collapse of the African economies around the middle of the 1980s was primarily due to massive failures in the agricultural sector. The related food crisis and its consequences were unprecedented in the region's history. The priority attention accorded to the sector in the last few years must, therefore, continue. The following critical issues will confront the Commission and community of nations in the next Medium-term Plan:

(a) Strengthening capabilities for better food and agriculture sector planning, policy analysis and programming;

(b) The development, adoption and/or transfer of appropriate technology for the improvement of the productivity of staple food and export crops, livestock, fisheries and forest resources;

(c) Improving structures, systems and institutions serving small farmers with a focus on food production, food losses, food security, research and technology, manpower, development and rural development; and

(d) Structural transformation in the rural sector through the design implementation, monitoring and evaluation of integrated rural development programmes with emphasis on self-reliance and popular participation.

20. Among factor inputs for growth and development, the ready availability of indigenous capital goods and resources must be counted as one of the most important. The challenge to industry in Africa in the 1990s will, therefore, be to lay a sound foundation for self-reliant and self-sustaining industrialization by shifting the emphasis from import-dependent consumer goods industries to resource-based and engineering core industries in food processing, textiles, forest and wood, metals, mechanical, chemicals and petro-chemicals and building materials within the framework of the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa. The adequacy of the network of capital services, including mainly industrial consultancy services and business support institutions, is a necessary condition for the development of the capital goods industries. During the 1990s, therefore, renewed effort will have to be concentrated on improving the quality and orientation of this network particularly in respect of the requirements of entrepreneurs especially for small-scale industries and the effective functioning of private and public enterprises. Emphasis will also be put on the adoption by African countries of sound industrial policies plans and programmes, institution building and human resources development especially technological and management capabilities.

21. The reform of demand patterns is not only crucial for the development of domestic factor inputs, it is also another condition for accelerated growth and diversification. This is what makes the need to reform market structures and bring about a more effective multinational co-operation particularly urgent. In this connection, greater efforts will need to be made to embrace the advantages of inter-country complementarities through intensified intra-African trade. The need to strengthen the various trade-oriented and multisectoral intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions is clear in this respect. There will, however, be need for new ways of strengthening the delivery capacity of these organizations and institutions and to turn them into effective instruments of economic integration and collective self-reliance through the implementation of

more practical and imaginative joint programmes and projects within subregional groupings in the field of intra-African trade and monetary and financial co-operation.

22. While renewed emphasis will have to be put on measures to improve arrangements for securing larger inflows of financial resources through more aggressive export promotion drive for Africa's emerging industrial and manufacturing ventures, the reform of the international monetary system and increased flow of ODA, the focus in the 1990s should equally be on the way the region is progressively being weakened by the velocity with which large amounts of foreign exchange is being recycled to pay for goods and services which the region can, with some effort, provide for itself. The problems of debt accummulation and servicing, transfers and capital repatriation by TNCs and foreign firms, payments for consultancies, management fees and technology and other services, including insurance, shipping, civil aviation, internal distribution, external marketing, etc., will have to be looked at and acted upon in terms of the domestic capacity and capabilities to provide these goods and services. A related issue which will need to be addressed with equal determination is the mobilization and rational utilization of domestic financial resources.

23. Infrastructure for self-reliant and self-sustaining diversified development and economic growth embraces a wide range of essential institutions, services and physical structures. Special attention will however, have to be paid to the influence of transport and communications on the nature and dynamics of domestic markets and the need in this regard for the effective integration of national and multinational economies. The implementation of the programme for the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa should serve as a useful framework in this regard. The potential inherent in tourism for promoting intra-African co-operation and development should also be enhanced through the development of intra-African tourism, establishment of inter-State tourist circuits and development of the required technical skills.

24. The interrelation between transport and human settlements is another area that will call for massive programme support particularly with regard to the transformation of the rural sector especially through spatial planning and development to arrest the flow of migrants to large cities, to facilitate the transmission of ideas, skills, incentives, information, etc., to rural areas and to generate the type of urban and semi-urban employment associated with rural industrialization. Housing conditions are particularly critical in the African region. Shelter strategies in conformity with the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 will have to be established for African countries in order that they may benefit fully from the assistance of the international community in addressing the shelter problem.

25. Other activities related to rural transformation will, of course, need to be conceived and executed within the framework of integrated programmes for rural development which will embrace all sectors bearing in mind the crucial need for environmental protection especially measures to continue the combat against drought and desertification. There is a special need for the development and strengthening of institutional and manpower capabilities, a shift in policy orientation and the establishment of legislative and administrative mechanism that will ensure sound environmental management.

26. Action in respect of the social aspects of economic change will emphasize equitable social and related human resources development from the point of view of the appropriate social environment and the requirements for economic productivity,

social welfare and individual well-being. The regional programme for social development in the 1990s will seek to deepen, through interdisciplinary analysis, understanding of the role of social policy and social planning in alleviating mass poverty and deprivation and eliminating structural imbalances and disparities with respect to the urban and rural sectors and the participation of the different population groups in the development process, with a particular attention to less-advantaged population groups such as women, youth, the elderly, and the disabled as well as key segments of the population like the rural labour force with a view to ensuring full and effective participation in, and equitable benefit from, the overall development process by the entire population. Attention will also be given to effective measures for the prevention of rising rates of crime including drug abuse and illicit trafficking, and for the development of an efficient and effective criminal justice system.

27. Overall, the implied changes in domestic policies, strategies and programmes will have to be backed by continuous socio-economic research and in-depth analysis of the economy and society with a view to designing appropriate policies and a systematic reorientation and upgrading of the methodologies of development planning with special emphasis given to micro-sectoral and inter-sectoral planning and forecasting systems. The continuous examination of the linkages between real and monetary variables is an important component of the research and analysis.

28. All these would be essential for the much-needed improvements in the management of the African economies. Other important areas in this regard are the continual assessment of the role of the public sector with a view to improving its efficiency and effectiveness, improvement of the performance of public enterprises, reforming of the public services to make them more development oriented, and formulating measures for encouraging the participation of indigenous entrepreneurs in the development of the private and public sectors of the economies. It will also be necessary to increase the quantum of domestic public financial resources mobilized through the improvement of taxation systems, policies and administration. With a view to promoting the efficient use of resources and cutting on wastage and resource misallocation, government budgetary systems and administration would also have to be strengthened.

29. The need for substantially improved statistical and information systems based on the greater use of computer technology is obvious. The Commission and its secretariat must continue to provide the required support in these areas. Efforts will in particular continue to be made in the fields of statistical conceptualization, methodology, statistical organization and training, and increased attention paid to data and information collection, processing and analysis and the building up of durable statistical infrastructure in member States.

30. The special problems of the least developed, land-locked and island countries will have to be reconsidered in earnest and acted upon within the framework of comprehensive programmes.

2. Strategy, co-ordination and other instrumentalities for the implementation of the programme

31. During the 1984-1989 Medium-term Plan (extended to 1991), ECA concentrated its efforts to conceptual clarifications, the provision of information for use by member States, the organization of training activities and of intergovernmental meetings with a view to presenting policy issues to member States at the highest intergovernmental levels, the provision of country-specific and problem-specific

technical assistance and advisory services to member States, the promotion of, and support to the development of appropriate institutions, and the identification and execution of technical co-operation activities for the direct benefit of member States. The available evidence is that much more of these approaches and strategies is needed. Therefore, while emphasis will vary from programme to programme as is evident in the subprogramme narratives, these approaches and strategies for supporting the efforts of member States either individually or collectively to attack successfully their economic and social development problems will be intensified during the period 1992-1997. In this context, particular attention will be paid to efforts to promote and sustain economic co-operation and integration through the identification and formulation of multisectoral integration projects at the subregional level in such critical sectors as food and agriculture, industry, energy, transport and communications, and the promotion of the effective use of institutions.

32. It is an elementary fact that the increased complexity of the activities in the substantive subprogrammes will inevitably lead to increased demand on the management and other support services of the secretariat of the Commission. Therefore in the Medium-term Plan, 1992-1997, activities in the crucial support services areas as executive direction and management, management of technical co-operation activities, conference, administration and common services will have to be expanded and made more efficient. In particular, planning, programming, monitoring and evaluation services will have to be improved. And within planning, programming, monitoring and evaluation, special attention will have to be given to monitoring and evaluation in view of their multiplier effects on planning and programming in general and on the efficient use of resources in particular. In the area of administration and common services continued attention will have to be given to the use of modern data processing techniques and the associated need for automation so as to get away from antiquated methods and their negative effects on performance.

33. ECA has forged joint programming and formal working links with a number of specialized agencies and other units of the United Nations system including in particular FAO with which it has a joint division, and UNIDO, UNESCO, with which it undertakes joint programmes harmonized through regular joint concertation meetings between the two secretaries, UNFPA, UNEP, ITC, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the Centre on Transnational Corporations which provide funds for some of ECA's activities in their respective areas of interest, ICAO, IMO, ITU and UPU in matters concerning the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, IBRD, ILO, WFP and UNICEF in activities related to human resources planning, development and utilization and in other areas, and WHO which like UNDP has a liaison office with ECA located at ECA headquarters.

34. ECA co-operation with UNDP within the framework of the implementation of the restructuring resolution has been referred to by many as perhaps the closest ECA has with any other agency. This co-operation has grown and expanded not only in terms of the volume of project execution ECA undertakes on behalf of UNDP but also, particularly significant for ECA, in terms of the use UNDP has made of the Commission's "development centre" and "team leadership" roles in getting intersecretariat and African intergovernmental agreements on, and support for the determination of the orientation and priorities for its regional inter-country economic and technical co-operation programmes.

35. All these links together with several others established with agencies outside the United Nations system such as the Organization of African Unity, the African Development Bank, and other multilateral and bilateral programmes will be

progressively deepened and extended to enhance integrated joint programming for the execution of the programme. Much more use will be made of system-wide inter-agency task forces for co-ordinating programme implementation. Similarly, the Commission will continue to participate effectively in cross-organizational programme analyses and in the implementation of system-wide medium-term plans.

PART II - SUBPROGRAMME NARRATIVES

SUBPROGRAMME 1: EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

(a) Legislative authority

36. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is the terms of reference of the Commission: ST/SGB/Organization/Section K(IV)Rev.1; General Assembly resolutions 32/197, para. 7 and annex; 33/202; 35/56 (A/S-11/14, annexes I and II); 39/29; 40/40, para. 9; A/40/666, Section V, para. 3, Section VI, para. 1; S-1/2 and annex; 43/27 and annex, and Commission resolution 674 (XXIV).

(b) Objectives

37. The objectives of this subprogramme are to provide intellectual leadership in the formulation of regionally agreed policies, strategies and programmes for the socio-economic development of Africa, to provide overall direction and management of the substantive and operational programmes of the Commission as well as its support services, to secure international support for the activities of the Commission, to oversee and co-ordinate the constitutional arrangements and legislative machinery of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, with governments, the specialized and other agencies of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, and to provide public information on the activities of the Commission in particular and the United Nations in general.

(c) Problems addressed

38. The prevailing critical economic and social situation in Africa calls for efficient practical measures to be taken by the Commission to assist member States to redress the situation and to relaunch the initiative for long-term growth and development in the region. These measures must be taken in a cost effective manner.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

39. By the end of 1991, the Commission would have reviewed progress in the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos and guidelines issued for the implementation of the Plan and the Final Act in the remainder of their period. Operational implications of the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP) would also have become clearer.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

40. The following will be part of the strategy for the plan period:

(a) Provision of intellectual leadership in the further interpretation and translation of Africa's regional strategies including the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation into practical operational terms;

(b) Increased contacts and consultations with African Governments for the purpose of reviewing policy, strategy and operations in the light of changing circumstances in the region;

(c) Intensification of efforts to mobilize more external resources for the activities of the secretariat especially through visits and other contacts with bilateral and multilateral funding agencies;

(d) Ensuring greater cost effectiveness in the use of Commission resources;

(e) Ensuring the Commission's participation in the United Nations system global decision-making processes;

(f) Increased contacts with the executive heads of United Nations system agencies and organizations, with a view to greater harmonization of system activities in Africa;

(g) Enhanced collaboration with, and increased technical support to the OAU;

(h) Sustained support and increased efforts to strengthen African regional economic organizations and institutions;

(i) Providing intellectual leadership in the formulation and implementation of Commission policies, strategies and programmes;

(j) Providing directives and overall supervision for all ECA activities, including all substantive activities and support services;

(k) Liaising with governments, the specialized and other agencies of the United Nations and other intergovernmental and non-intergovernmental organizations on the activities of the Commission;

(l) Reviewing and evaluating of the management and operations of the secretariat;

(m) Ensuring the organizational and administrative arrangements for the annual sessions of the Conference of Ministers and the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole;

(n) Monitoring the activities and decisions of the General Assembly, ECOSOC and other organs of the United Nations with a view to bringing them to the attention of the Commission and follow-up on the implementation of these decisions; and

(c) Providing public information on the activities of the Commission and the United Nations through press releases, amphlets and other information media.

SUBPROGRAMME 2: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY, PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

(a) Legislative authority

41. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is FAO and Commission terms of reference; FAC resolution 4/78; Commission resolution 351 (XIV), para. 1; General Assembly resolutions 35/64, para. 5 and S-13/2; FAO Harare Declaration of July 1984, paras. 5, and 6; Commission resolutions 548 (XX), para. 4 (b) and 565 (XXI), para.11; and General Assembly resolution 41/191, para. 3.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

42. The disappointments of the 1970s and early 1980s in African agricultural development call for the adoption of more appropriate development policies by the African countries in order to accelerate the development process and reverse past trends. In this connection, the objective of governments in the 1990s will be to develop and strengthen their capability to design and implement appropriate policies and strategies on food and agriculture so as to enhance the achievement of food self-sufficiency in Africa. In this regard, member States should continue to implement the necessary macro-economic and sectoral policy measures including structural adjustment programmes in the context of the "African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation" with special emphasis on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the food and agricultural sector.

(ii) Objective of the secretariat

43. To continue to provide assistance and appropriate technical backstopping to member States of ECA and intergovernmental organizations in their efforts to implement appropriate policies for the efficient performance of the food and agricultural sector and to improve their capacity and effectiveness in agricultural development policy formulation, planning and monitoring, including periodic sectoral review.

(c) Problems addressed

44. One of the continent's most serious weaknesses is its inability to formulate and implement coherent agricultural policies and plans and their programming with regard to technical, institutional and infrastructural development as they relate to increased food production and productivity. The main problem to be addressed, therefore, is that of inappropriate policy orientation including the policies relating to fiscal and monetary matters, and their impact on the rural and agricultural sector. The absence of reliable agricultural statistics for the use of agricultural planners and policy makers is also a problem in this regard. This subprogramme will address these problems.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

45. At the end of the current Medium-term Plan (1984-1991), the agricultural sector will still be dominating the African economies. By the end of 1991, the effectiveness of ongoing agricultural policies, plans and investment programmes would have been ascertained. The critical areas with regard to constraints encountered in implementing priority programmes, including inadequacies relating to budgetary problems, technical and managerial capabilities as well as inter-country co-operation in planning and policy strategies will have been identified and analyzed. The World Agricultural Census of 1990 will also have taken place, making available substantial structural data base on agriculture.

46. Hopefully, African countries will continue to adopt strategies for the improvement of this sector including measures for diversification of their production and markets and close linkage between agriculture and the other sectors of the economy.

47. The multidisciplinary expert group for the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolutions 35/64 and S-13/2 will have come up with an objective assessment of the situation and appropriate recommendations for future action. Constraints and deficiencies impeding the effective functioning of the agricultural statistical systems, and institutions relating to the development and rational exploitation of natural resources will also have become more discernible.

(i) The period 1992-1997

48. The problems to be addressed during 1992-1997 will be tackled through indepth analysis whose conclusions and recommendations would be conveyed to member countries of the Commission and intergovernmental organizations by means of workshops, seminars, advisory services, technical publications, etc., with a view to improving their capabilities in the planning, programming and management of the food and agricultural sector. There will also be a continuous review of policies and assistance in the implementation of agricultural development plans and strategies and in the identification of constraints thereof. Specifically, the strategy will focus on the following issues:

(a) Technical support to member States in their efforts to revamp and identify appropriate agricultural policies, and planning strategies for stimulating agricultural production and rural structural transformation and development, including agro-industries in order to increase production and incomes and reduce poverty;

(b) Assistance in strengthening government and intergovernmental organizations' capabilities in agricultural planning, programming and policy analysis and in the formulation, monitoring, evaluation and management of programmes and projects through short-term advisory services;

(c) Monitoring the implementation of the food and agricultural aspects of AFPLAN, the Lagos Plan of Action, and structural adjustment and stabilization programmes;

(d) Training programmes in order to improve and upgrade manpower analytical and administrative capabilities for planning skills and policy analysis, especially for small farmers;

(e) Technical support in the establishment of integrated systems of agricultural statistics with a view to strengthening food and agricultural information, analysis and policy. This will emphasize permanent and systematic data collection, improvement of data base on women, training and the development of early warning systems; and

(f) Technical assistance in the preparation of national and inter-country food and agricultural development programmes in the context of structural adjustment programmes for socio-economic recovery and transformation of Africa.

SUBPROGRAMME 3: DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

(a) Legislative authority

49. Commission and FAO terms of reference and Commission resolutions 264 (XII), 351 (XIV), 462 (XVIII), 565 (XXI) and 641 (XXIII); World Food Conference resolution 1; recommendations of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa; General Assembly resolution 35/64 on A/S-11/14 and S-13/2 annex.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

50. To promote a sustainable development of the key production systems in African agriculture involving crops, livestock and forestry, and to adopt appropriate policies to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of crops, livestock and forestry products. Member States will also take appropriate measures to enhance national and regional capacities and opportunities for self-sustaining expansion in the production of these agricultural commodities.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

51. The objective of the secretariat is to provide technical advice and assistance to governments at subregional and regional levels through the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) and intergovernmental organizations in improving agricultural production and productivity. Expansion of agricultural production will be encouraged through policy recommendations on appropriate changes in the structure of production of small farmers and pastoralists, which should result in increased use of improved agricultural inputs and proper crop and animal protection measures.

(c) Problems addressed

52. The production base in Africa is characterized by weak inter-sectoral linkages. The main problem facing many countries in the region is the non-availability or inability to apply appropriate policies that would ensure a steady increase in agricultural productivity through technological change

which is so indispensable to sustained expansion in agricultural production. The main problems to be addressed will include:

(a) Lack of co-ordination of agricultural research including technology transfer particularly to small holders;

(b) Application of inadequate policies with regard to the use of agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, improved seeds, farm tools, machinery and implements and animal inputs;

(c) Application of inadequate policies resulting in the irrational utilization and conservation of farm land, water and edible resources of fauna and flora; and

(d) Inadequate policies regarding the application of appropriate plant and animal protection measures.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

53. At the end of the 1990-1991 biennium, a number of policy reforms introduced by member governments in the areas of applied agricultural research (especially cereals), agricultural supporting services to peasants, small farmers and pastoralists, and training and development of infrastructural facilities will have been adopted. Networking arrangements with emphasis on staple food crops now being established in the various subregions would have become operational. A number of countries will have adopted livestock development policies and programmes and a number of projects aimed at increasing livestock and dairy production through subregional or regional co-operation will have been completed. A number of countries will have adopted policies and programmes aimed at reducing food losses and the use of non-conventional food resources will have been exploited. Programmes and activities for enhancing the role and participation of women in the production of cereals, tubers and dairy products will be well under way.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

54. Food and agriculture will continue to be a priority area for action in 1992-1997. An expanded assistance and involvement of specialized organizations of the United Nations system and of regional organizations will be required, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 32/197 and the recommendations of the Group of 18 concerning the restructuring of the Secretariat.

55. Measures will be required to improve agricultural production and productivity through increased local production and use of agricultural inputs as well as through better protection of livestock, forestry and non-conventional food resources. With regard to food self-sufficiency, policy emphasis will be put on achieving a proper balance between the food sector and the production of agricultural export commodities. Measures for reversing the present trends of adopting policies that tend, especially in terms of price incentives, to create a bias against the food subsector and to favour the production of export commodities will be promoted.

56. The subprogramme will also aim at promoting agricultural and agro-forestry research as well as training. In this regard, technical publications and/or advisory services on Africa's sustainable development, especially with respect to the development and improvement of management of the continent's natural resources involving the promotion of efficient production and rational utilization of forest and related resources will be provided. Support to the development and strengthening of forestry institutions such as research and training in order to improve national capabilities in the development and management of forestry programmes and plans will also be provided.

SUBPROGRAMME 4: DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(a) Legislative authority

57. Terms of reference of the Commission and FAO; The legislative authority of this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 35/64 on A/S-11/14, 43/190 and 43/191 and the recommendations of FAO's fourteenth and fifteenth Regional Conference for Africa.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

58. The development of appropriate policies that will permit institutions established to give support to the agricultural sector to function more efficiently.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

59. To assist member countries and intergovernmental bodies in establishing and developing agricultural institutions, infrastructures and services at country, subregional and regional levels. The secretariat will also aim at assisting them in improving or accelerating the development of adequate infrastructures especially in the marketing subsector, and in the establishment of operational and effective intra-regional co-operation in efforts aimed at improving agricultural supporting services and trade in food and other agricultural products and in reducing post-harvest food losses in order to improve food security.

(c) Problems addressed

60. In Africa, most of the agricultural institutions and infrastructures, both public and private, which provide economic services to and which have a significant effect, directly or indirectly, upon the functioning of agricultural activities, are not operating effectively. There is need to identify the bottlenecks in these institutions and structures, and to design policies that would effectively remove them. More particularly, the following main problems currently confront the agricultural sector:

(a) Production areas lack infrastructures such as feeder roads, markets and appropriate stores for produce and inputs and primary processing facilities;

(b) The magnitude of food losses remains very high and large quantities of food and other agricultural products deteriorate rapidly, particularly the most perishable ones including roots, tubers, fruits and vegetables;

(c) The lack of appropriate credit schemes or the difficult conditions governing access to loans prevents producers and marketers from investing in the development of appropriate basic structures;

(d) Extension services remain inadequate in terms of density, coverage and quality of delivered technical packages; and

(e) National agricultural research institutions work in isolation and have been unable to successfully address the important problems of staple food production and the problems of peasant agriculture.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

61. The socio-economic crisis in Africa and more particularly the food crisis during the 1980s has been at the forefront of international fora. It has led to a growing concern about the food sector in Africa and member States as well as international organizations are according more attention to the development of the agricultural sector and more particularly to the food sector and its supporting services.

62. Despite the laudable efforts towards achieving food self-sufficiency, the situation at the end of 1991 will still be characterized by low productivity in peasant agriculture and by inefficient or lack of basic supporting services (extension, credit, inputs, adaptative research). In view of the continuing debt burden faced by many African countries and reduced public expenditures called for by structural adjustment programmes, the agricultural sector will continue to suffer from insufficient investment resources. In addition, the following shortcomings will continue to prevail:

(a) The growth rate of food production will hardly match that of the population;

(b) Marketing infrastructures and other agricultural supporting services, although improved in some cases during the last plan period, will not be sufficient in number and efficiency to ensure the proper marketing of food and other agricultural products;

(c) Support services will remain inadequate to boost production and prevent both pre- and post-harvest food losses more particularly with regard to perishables such as roots, tubers, fruits and vegetables;

(d) Agricultural research will continue to experience difficulties in providing technologies that are technically and economically superior to what the majority of African farmers are presently using; and

(e) Inter-country co-operation in various aspects of agricultural institution building, initiated during the previous period by the Commission, FAO and other concerned organizations, will still need to be strengthened.

(iii) The review cycle

63. The strategy for the period 1992-1997 will concentrate on the promotion of food self-sufficiency and food security through:

(a) Encouraging the adoption of appropriate marketing, extension, research, credit and input delivery policies and incentives to increase production and utilization of foodstuffs;

(b) Improving the agricultural infrastructures and inputs supply and support services to small farmers;

(c) Promoting and encouraging the development and rational utilization of agricultural manpower resources through training, seminars and workshops;

(d) Encouraging and promoting research programmes for developing appropriate technologies for the production, processing and preservation of staple foods and reduction of food losses and wastes and promoting biotechnologies with appropriate attention to their sustainability and long-term economic impact on African agriculture;

(e) Encouraging and promoting agricultural price harmonization and co-ordination at country, subregional and regional levels;

(f) Promoting the establishment of effective inter-action between agricultural researchers, extension personnel and the farmers; and

(g) Providing assistance in the implementation of programmes and projects identified during the previous period for developing appropriate technologies for processing and preserving staple foods and reducing food losses and wastes.

SUBPROGRAMME 5: RURAL STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT

(a) Legislative authority

64. The terms of reference of the Commission and FAO, and General Assembly resolutions 34/14, 35/61 and 35/56-II/14, annex I; and 40/40; S-13/2; Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/50; and Commission resolutions 117 (VI), 197 (IX), 321 (XIII), 353 (XIV) and 401 (XVII).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

65. To promote structural adjustment and transformation of the rural sectors of Africa and the improvement of the quality of life of its rural populations by improving its socio-economic base through the implementation of ecologically sound and self-sustained rural development programmes.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

66. To assist member States in analyzing their national experience in integrated rural development programmes and in designing, implementing,

monitoring and evaluating such programmes. The secretariat will assist member States in designing and implementing grass-roots rural development programmes in which the beneficiaries would have direct participation in the identification and implementation of development activities which affect their lives. To this end, the secretariat will pay special attention to enabling member countries to acquire experience and improved capacity for designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating grass-roots integrated rural development programmes. This explicit direction will involve systematic conditioning of programme/project design to reflect the introduction of measures which enhance local capacity for generating income and improving social and economic infrastructures on a self-sustaining basis. The secretariat would provide member States with analysis, guidelines, reports and assistance in order to help them overcome the problems mentioned below and to attain the objectives of structural adjustment with transformation and self-reliant participatory rural development.

(c) Problems addressed

67. The problems to be addressed are:

(a) Inadequate policies and planning;

(b) Inequitable distribution of resources, opportunities and profits in rural areas;

(c) Lack of local popular participation in the decision-making process in rural areas;

(d) The need for comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of rural development projects/programmes;

(e) Lack of social equity among the rural population;

(f) Inadequate socio-economic infrastructures in rural areas;

(g) Inadequate participation in credit schemes which benefit the rural poor; and

(h) Lack of self-reliance on the part of rural communities and unduly high dependence on external assistance.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

68. In 1991, a significant proportion of the rural population in Africa will still be living in poverty. Their access to productive resources will continue to be limited. Income distribution in rural areas will continue to be skewed and the socio-economic infrastructures will still be inadequate and not equally accessible to all members of the rural population. Structural adjustment programmes will not have been fully implemented.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

69. The strategy for the period 1992-1997 will consist of research, studies and reports with a view to identifying the appropriate solutions to the socio-economic stagnation and disparity in rural Africa and providing advice on policy options, structural reform, institution building, participatory rural organizations, small farmers' development, rural technology; rural mass communication, production and service co-operatives, rural credit and rural work programmes as well as assistance in the formulation and implementation of integrated rural development programmes. The strategy will also include the creation of an African network comprising rural development institutions in Africa to enable member States to exchange relevant information and experiences regarding rural development on a regular basis.

SUBPROGRAMME 6: WATER AND LIVING MARINE RESOURCES

(a) Legislative authority

70. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is Commission and FAO terms of reference; General Assembly resolution 37/66, para. 7 on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990; and Commission resolutions 332 (XIV), 340 (XIV) and 478 (XVIII). In addition, there are World Food Conference resolution 1, and recommendations of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

71. To promote the development of improved systems for the expansion of fisheries resources including aquaculture and to formulate coherent policies with a view to meeting the food and protein requirements of the region's population.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

72. The secretariat's role in implementing the subprogramme is that of assisting member governments at national, subregional and regional levels through the MULPOCs and the various intergovernmental organizations responsible for improving the performance and productivity of the fisheries and aquaculture subsector.

73. Unlike in the agriculture sector, fisheries resources are extracted from an eco-system which man is neither capable of controlling fully nor of changing to suit his needs. Consequently, the secretariat's role is also that of assisting African States in exploiting national and regional water and living marine resources in a rational fashion in order to optimize economic, production and employment benefits.

74. To this end, the secretariat would provide assistance in the development of improved methods of collecting reliable and coherent data as well as of assessing or evaluating available fisheries resources particularly those

commonly shared by various States. In this context, it would be essential to support the development of projects fostering subregional co-operation.

(c) Problems addressed

75. The production base in Africa is characterized by weak inter-sectoral linkages. The principal problem encountered by a number of African countries is the lack of appropriate policies and of related capacity to enhance productivity and to adopt new technologies.

76. The priority problem areas include:

(a) Inadequate exploitation of fisheries resources in spite of their nutritional importance and low prices;

(b) Absence of sustained and coherent policies;

(c) Lack of parallel development of related sectors, notably in the areas of research, training and stock assessment;

(d) Scarcity of production inputs with regard to the exploitation of fisheries resources in coastal waters mainly by artisanal fishermen as well as the obsolescence of existing fishing facilities (nets, engine-driven boats, marketing, etc.);

(e) Inadequacy of joint ventures or of agreements with foreign fishing fleets to promote deep-sea fishing in the context of subregional projects (particularly for migrating species in the high seas);

(f) Absence of industries for the exploitation of fisheries resources at the national or regional levels even when this appears to be economically justifiable; and

(g) Occasional inconsistency of projects launched by diverse international organizations in the same subsector.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

77. A certain number of policies in the subsector will have been adopted by African countries. Nonetheless, African countries possess vast fisheries resources whose present system of exploitation will not bring about optimal benefits. In effect, certain resources will be exploited by foreign fishing fleets in exchange for low compensatory payments to the countries within the limits of their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ). With the scientific knowledge and technological know-how acquired in the region, the exploitation of these resources could significantly contribute to the region's socio-economic development.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

78. During 1992-1997, the subprogramme will provide assistance to member countries and intergovernmental organizations in the following areas:

(a) Strengthening of related institutional and structural framework required for the formulation of coherent policies;

(b) Improvement of scientific and technological research through:

(i) assessment of available resources in the EEZ of each country and stock-taking of various fish species including crustacea;

(ii) evaluation of shared stocks of marine resources and of fresh-water fish in collaboration with neighbouring countries especially those whose traditional occupation is fishing;

(iii) introduction of technologies adapted to artisanal aquaculture and fishing (boats, fumigation techniques, etc.); and

(iv) provision of an informative data base pertaining to the different assessment activities with a view to enhancing the technical and scientific knowledge of member States on matters of interest to fisheries and aquaculture;

(c) Provide training opportunities in water and living marine resources development and management at three levels:

(i) at a higher level, designed to ensure that African countries will build up a minimum level of national capabilities as early as possible;

(ii) at an intermediate level, designed to ensure the development of middle-level technicians not only in the exploitation of fisheries resources but also in other related areas (motor, refrigerator, etc.); and

(iii) at a lower level, to provide field-oriented and wide-spread (particularly along the coast) training to fishermen;

(d) Provide assistance, in close collaboration with the various countries, the executing agencies and the donors concerned, in the formulation of investment projects with particular reference to:

(i) analysis of circumstantial and structural constraints inhibiting the development of the subsector;

(ii) rehabilitating the existing fishing fleet and overall logistical support by introducing new inputs (ports, refrigerators, etc.) rather than launching ex nihilo new investments;

(iii) promotion of joint investment programmes in the exploitation of fisheries resources commonly owned or shared by different countries;

(iv) popularization and improvement of fish processing techniques by placing accent on the training of women given the vital role they play in the development of the subsector;

(v) fostering joint investment operations in the production of, and trade in marine products between African and developed countries;

(vi) forging synergetically an intimate collaboration with the various subregional organizations established by ECA and other United Nations agencies whose activities are relevant to the subsectors; and

(vii) strengthening the production, processing and marketing of marine resources.

SUBPROGRAMME 7: SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS, PLANNING AND PROJECTIONS

(a) Legislative authority

79. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 3281 (XXIX), 3201 (S-VI), 3202 (S-VI), 3508 (XXX), 35/64 on A/S-11/14 annexes I and II, A/S-13/A annex; 40/100, 40/207, 41/142, 41/174 and 43/182; ECOSOC resolutions 1986/51 and 1987/48; and ECA resolutions 460 (XVIII), 501 (XIX) and 601 (XXII).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

80. To promote continuous understanding of the process of economic and social development and growth in Africa; to encourage unified approach to development analysis and planning.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

81. To undertake continuously indepth intersectoral analyses and syntheses of development issues and to identify and bring to the attention of Governments of member States and their development partners emerging economic and social issues of African and international concern; to prepare and publish annual surveys of economic and social conditions in Africa; promote the formulation of appropriate economic and social policies; develop and propagate techniques of planning including projections appropriate to the economic and social situation in Africa; organize and service the activities of the Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers; organize and service the activities of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs and the Conference of Ministers of African LDCs.

(c) Problems addressed

82. In order for governments and other decision-making units to monitor the performance of the economy and changes in the society and adopt appropriate policies there is need for continuous information obtained from research into indepth analysis of the economy and society. There is also need to strengthen

the linkages between economic and social policies and strategies and eliminate some of the present imbalances between the two major sectors. Similarly, in order to promote economic co-operation and integration in a region like Africa, where the conditions call for collective self-reliance, there is need for information on a comparative basis. In the developed countries, the required analytical work is usually done by officials of the government and those who work in research establishments both private and public. Thus, ECA as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for Africa, has a big role in filling the gap. Its role of promoting economic co-operation and integration also requires that it prepares comparative analytical studies. Finally, since analytical studies, surveys and development planning are intimately linked and the situation with respect to the capacity of member States to develop and use the required techniques is still very weak, ECA also has the responsibility to develop them and assist member States to master them.

83. The preparation of new policies for structural adjustment development financing will become the major focus in the future. Thus, studies will be carried out on such critical areas as the mobilization of the enormous resources of the informal sector; the management of foreign exchange reserves, highlighting problems in export promotion, import reduction, debt management, prevention or control of foreign exchange leakages and the problems of efficacy of fiscal and monetary policies in dealing with these problems. In addition, studies will be carried out for the promotion of social policy and social planning as a means of alleviating mass poverty and deprivation and enhancing the equitable distribution of the people in the development process.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

84. At the end of 1991, at least three more annual surveys of economic and social conditions in Africa will have been prepared; about five countries of the region would have assisted in installing forecasting models; two sessions of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs and another meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers will have been serviced; and many advisory services on surveys and balanced social and economic development and development planning will have been given. The final evaluation of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 (APPER) and the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UN-PAAERD) would have been completed. However, as the recent experience has shown, there is no doubt that many African countries will still not be able to undertake the required policy analysis and will continue to need external assistance.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

85. Most of the activities in this subprogramme are continuous. Thus, during the period 1992-1997, research into the factors influencing the African economy and social situation will continue and preparation and publication of the annual survey of economic and social conditions in Africa and of the annual economic report will continue. The development and application of planning techniques particularly in the context of balanced social and economic development and economic co-operation and the monitoring of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the fourth United

Nations Development Decade, the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development for Africa and the Final Act of Lagos (A/S-11/14, annexes I and II), the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes and of any other strategies that may be adopted for the African region in the 1990s will be undertaken. The development and application of planning techniques particularly in the context of economic co-operation and integration will be intensified. Training of African planning specialists in plan preparation, implementation techniques and methodology will be given the highest priority. The meetings of the Conference of African Ministers of Social Affairs and of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers will be serviced.

SUBPROGRAMME 8: LEAST DEVELOPED, LAND-LOCKED AND ISLAND AFRICAN COUNTRIES

(a) Legislative authority

86. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 35/64 on A/S-11/14, annex I; 37/224, para. 14-16; 38/195, para.23-24 and 39/174, para. 10; 39/29, annex S-13/2, annex and 42/177; Commission resolution 457 (XVII), para. 2.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

87. To monitor the economies of the least developed, land-locked and island African countries and promote appropriate policies for their transformation toward self-sustained development.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

88. The objective of the secretariat is to assist least developed, land-locked and island African countries in their planning and programming efforts for the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) as will be revised for the 1990s. In this connection, efforts will be directed at:

(a) Assessing international efforts in the implementation of the SNPA with a view to promoting the necessary structural changes required to overcome their extreme economic difficulties and enable them to achieve adequate internationally acceptable minimum standards of living. In the context of the SNPA efforts will be made to improving aid modalities, adjust the volume of aid and its use to development needs of the countries and devise appropriate changes in aid programmes;

(b) Undertaking studies which will assist least developed, land-locked and island African countries in formulating plans and programmes on the basis of appropriate planning methodologies with a view to transforming their economies;

(c) Assisting least developed, land-locked and island African countries in securing emergency support in case of natural disasters;

(d) Undertaking studies on efficient socio-economic management, tailoring of the design, conditionalities and performance criteria of structural adjustment and stabilization programmes to their peculiar characteristics of the LDCs, the integration of such programmes in the framework of the LDCs' medium- and long-term national socio-economic development objectives;

(e) Undertaking studies on effective mobilization and efficient allocation of domestic resources, including human resources development and utilization; and

(f) Servicing the meetings of the Conference of Ministers of African least developed, land-locked and island countries.

(c) Problems addressed

89. The least developed, land-locked and island African countries are all characterized by very low income per head; the majority of their population living at below minimum basic needs standards; extremely low agricultural productivity and weak agro-support institutions; low share of manufacturing in GDP; grossly under-exploited natural resources, especially minerals and energy; low per capita export levels; acute scarcity of skilled personnel at all levels; weak institutional and physical infrastructure, especially in the areas of transport and communications.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

90. More indepth studies of the economies of the least developed, land-locked and island African countries as a group will have been undertaken. The institutional arrangements for the monitoring, follow-up and review of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action will also have been continued and technical advisory services extended in the form of substantive support in planning, programming and project preparation as well as co-ordination through the secretariat's inter-divisional committee on least developed, land-locked and island African countries.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

91. Technical advisory services will be provided, upon request, to enable the least developed, land-locked and island African countries to formulate plans and programmes on the basis of appropriate methodologies. Further indepth studies of their economies will be undertaken during the period of the Medium-term Plan. Technical co-operation projects will be identified and submitted to donor for funding. The least developed, land-locked and island African countries will be given preference in inter-country technical co-operation projects. Concerted efforts will be made for follow-up, monitoring, periodic review and evaluation of the effective implementation of the SNPA as up-dated for the next decade following its global review and appraisal in 1990. The annual meetings of the Conference of Ministers of African Least Developed Countries and of their experts will be serviced.

SUBPROGRAMME 9: ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND INTEGRATION IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

92. ECA resolutions 311 (XIV), 355 (XIV); General Assembly resolutions 33/134 on the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for promoting and implementing technical co-operation among developing countries, 35/61 on A/S-11/14, and A/S-13/2, annex.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

93. To promote the development of viable intergovernmental machinery for the formulation and implementation of economic co-operation and integration activities at the subregional and regional levels; to identify possible areas of co-operation between Africa and other developing regions; and promote their implementation.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

94. To strengthen the capacity of African intergovernmental organizations as effective instruments of self-sustaining and self-reliant development; to assist African countries and their intergovernmental organizations in the identification and implementation of integration projects; to promote South-South co-operation to enhance economic co-operation and integration in Africa; and to make proposals for the harmonization and rationalization of the integration activities of the various intergovernmental organizations.

(c) Problems addressed

95. The smallness of the African economies, the low per capita incomes and the dominance of subsistence production set major constraints on the development of viable productive units and limit development potentials. This makes economic co-operation and integration a necessity. But efforts to create effective integration arrangements are constrained by institutional and infrastructural deficiencies, among other things. Development plans are not yet co-ordinated on multinational, subregional or regional bases. Countries have not yet internalized co-operation and integration arrangements in their national policies. Absence of rationalization and co-ordination of existing intergovernmental organizations with identical or similar programmes does not allow them to join forces or formulate joint projects of mutual assistance. In fact there is a failure to implement economic integration projects, in particular, multinational projects.

96. Indeed, the main difficulty facing subregional economic integration in Africa is the lack of political will of the member countries to implement joint projects. This unwillingness to co-operate stems from the fact that the member countries are not convinced of the benefits that may accrue from the subregional economic schemes. In fact, the real obstacle to economic co-operation is the lack of funds to undertake critical global and sectoral studies which can show the respective interests of the member countries to participate fully in economic integration schemes, and indicate that the benefit of economic co-operation is equitably spread among the participating countries.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

97. It is expected that in each subregion economic integration projects will give priority to the development of subregional infrastructures and subregional integrated transport system; production, transportation of hydro-electricity; to the development of subregional productive system so as to increase agricultural productivity and to create an industrial base to modernize priority sectors; and lastly to the integration of national markets will be implemented. It is also expected that policy decisions will have been taken to rationalize the programme of subregional intergovernmental organizations in West, Central, Eastern and Southern Africa so as to ensure harmonious development between the subregions and that the activities for creation of a subregional preferential trade area for North Africa will have been completed. It is also expected that the OAU, ECA and ADB will be assisting the various intergovernmental organizations in co-ordinating and harmonizing their sectoral activities and to advance the creation of the African common market and economic community. It is further expected that through the assistance of ECA and ADB, agreements will be reached to implement interregional projects between the various intergovernmental organizations in West, Central, Eastern and Southern Africa in the critical areas: road, railways, electricity grids, etc., so as to strengthen economic relations between them.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

98. While effort will continue to be deployed to strengthen existing subregional organizations in implementing well- integrated sectoral projects, steps will be taken to co-ordinate and rationalize their activities so as to create a single subregional market in each subregion. In collaboration with the OAU and ADB, ECA will assist economic integration entities in adopting viable programmes for the period under consideration. Firstly, detailed master plans for transport and communications, energy, water and industries sectors, and human resources will be completed to lay the foundation of self-sustaining and self-reliant development and secondly, concrete multinational projects will be identified within these sectoral master plans and feasibility studies prepared for their implementation. During this period, intra-regional projects linking the main subregions of Africa would be also identified and implemented. In this regard, special attention would be given to continental road and railway networks, to continental electric grids for the exploitation of African natural resources and to projects of regional character, especially in the field of capital goods industries.

99. The implementation of basic and capital goods industries will require the promotion of a strong TCDC programme at subregional and regional levels.

SUBPROGRAMME 10: HUMAN RESOURCES, PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION

100. The legislative authority of this subprogramme is General Assembly resolution 43/219 and the report of the Fifth Committee to the plenary as contained in the annex of document A/C.5/43/CRP.4; and Conference of Ministers resolutions 495 (XIX), 546 (XX), 569 (XXI), 614 (XXII), 631 (XXIII), 633 (XIII) and 644 (XXIII).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

101. The intergovernmental objectives are to promote:

(a) The effective development of human resources necessary for accelerated economic and social development in all sectors of national economy; and

(b) The strengthening of capabilities for human resources planning, development and utilization as a basis for optimizing the contribution of human resources to Africa's socio-economic development.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

102. The objectives of the secretariat are to assist member States in:

(a) Designing, managing and evaluating their human resources planning, development and utilization policies and programmes with a view to making concrete proposals for more relevant policies and programmes reoriented towards meeting national development needs;

(b) Establishing and developing institutional machinery for manpower and employment planning, and utilization, and for harmonization and co-ordination;

(c) Planning, designing and managing seminars and workshops in education and training, manpower and employment planning; and

(d) In reviewing and evaluating educational and training policies, curricula, and education programmes and making recommendations on how to make them more relevant to meet national socio-economic development needs.

(c) Problems addressed

103. Educational systems in Africa have in general continued to produce individuals with skills that are not relevant to immediate development needs. This disparity has arisen largely because of the bias. There has accordingly been a growing number of unemployed school leavers at the first and the second levels as well as among university graduates. At the same time, the shortage of skilled and highly qualified manpower continues to grow resulting in an increasing tendency among African countries to rely heavily on imported personnel especially in the scientific, technical and technological fields and for consultancy services. At the same time, highly qualified and skilled personnel continue to leave the continent for employment in developed countries.

104. Inadequacies in effective manpower and employment planning have also tended to limit the contribution human resources could make to economic growth and socio-economic development. It is important for Africa to accelerate efforts to reverse the brain drain, to institute measures for assisting returnees and refugees to become productive. Priority should also be given to the training of specialists in programme development and evaluation, in

manpower and employment planning, in data collection and analysis and in education management.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

105. By the end of 1991 a confidence-building programme in curriculum development would have been going on for five years on a regional basis for at least 20 countries. This programme would have assisted member States in developing expertise in curriculum planning and review, curriculum development process and evaluation; programme evaluation; data collection and analysis; and developing instructional materials and equipment so as to reduce dependence on developed countries.

106. At the third level of education, four countries or so would have set up teaching centres at their campuses for improving teaching in the universities, and for enhancing the quality of research and consultancy services. Similarly, a collaborative project between AAU, ECA and UNESCO funded by UNDP would have been in progress designed to save the continent from importing textbooks through book production.

107. Education and training policies, particularly as regards education management, financing of education, and training would have been reviewed and changed or reformed. At least 10 or more countries would have introduced cost-recovery measures or fee-payment in institutions of higher learning in Africa, particularly by countries of the Eastern and Southern African and West African subregions.

108. In the implementation of the Khartoum Declaration, APPER, the UN-PAAERD and AAF-SAP, emphasis would have been placed on scientific acquisition of knowledge and on self-reliance in the planning, development and utilization of human resources.

109. Efforts would also have been made to reverse the thorny issue of the brain drain through the implementation of a project on the return of talent to Africa from the developed countries.

110. At least four/five countries would have reviewed and evaluated their manpower institutional machinery and established or re-established such institutional machinery for the harmonization and co-ordination of human resources development, i.e., the creation of a government ministry for human resources development and utilization. In addition, institutions of higher learning at national level and ECA-sponsored institutions at subregional and regional levels would have revitalized their role in the production of specialized and skilled manpower for Africa's socio-economic recovery particularly in the fields of science, computer and industrial technology, programme design and evaluation, consultancy services, etc.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

111. Activities under this subprogramme will consist of confidence-building measures and strategies designed to assist member States in planning, designing, managing, monitoring and evaluating of human resources planning, development and utilization by:

(a) Conducting training workshops, seminars and conferences at national, subregional and regional levels for senior government officials and personnel from both the private and parastatal sectors;

(b) Undertaking advisory services to member States on manpower and employment planning, creating/establishing institutional machinery for human resources development and utilization, and on evaluation of education and training programmes; and

(c) Undertaking studies on the status, development and utilization of human resources in African countries and using such studies as discussion documents at regional and subregional conferences and seminars.

112. Efforts would continue to attract Africans working in developed countries to return to the continent through:

(a) The intensification of the Joint ECA/ICM Return of Skills Programme for Africa; and

(b) Ensuring that specialized training for skilled manpower is undertaken in African institutions rather than developed countries as this external training has often proved to be one of the causes of brain drain.

113. Similarly, particular attention will be paid in the areas of education and training in undertaking advisory services to member States and conducting research studies on curriculum development and evaluation; on institutionalizing consultancy services using local expertise; and on the production of educational textbooks, materials and equipment. Efforts will also be made in assisting member States to develop non-formal education programmes as complements or supplements to formal education in the production of skilled manpower. This will be done through conducting national workshops and seminars at which measures and strategies for such development will be discussed and formulated. In addition, technical publications for the diffusion and dissemination of ideas, knowledge, information, research findings, innovations in education, training and utilization of human resources, and on programme development and evaluation will be produced and widely distributed to various institutions and governments in member countries. Efforts will also be made to assess the impact of ECA's human resources development and utilization programme during the plan period by conducting programme evaluation studies in selected African countries.

SUBPROGRAMME 11: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

114. The legislative mandates for this subprogramme is ECA Conference of Ministers resolutions 609 (XXII) and 631 (XXIII); General Assembly resolutions S-13/2, annex; 39/26, paras. 7 and 9; 40/17, paras. 1 and 2; 40/31, para. 13; 40/32, para. 10; 40/33, paras. 10 and 13; 40/34, paras. 5 and 9; 40/35, para. 4; 41/97, paras. 2 and 4; 41/98, paras. 1 and 2; 41/99; 41/107, para. 2; 41/149 para. 9; 42/54, paras. 2 and 3; 42/55, paras. 1, 2 and 3; 42/58, paras. 7, 8 and 11; 42/59, paras. 2, 4 and 9; 43/93, paras. 8, 10 and 15; 43/94, paras. 1, 2 and 3; 43/98, paras. 3 and 6; and 43/99, paras. 6 and 8; Economic

and Social Council resolutions 1985/35, paras. 1 and 3; 1986/13, para. 2; 1986/10; 1986/16, paras. 1, 2 and 3; 1987/53, para. 12; 1987/43, paras. 2 and 3; 1987/51, para. 2; 1988/11, para. 2; 1988/44, para. 6; and 1988/45, para. 3.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

115. To promote the development, adoption and implementation of relevant and appropriate policies, programmes, strategies and services for the effective integration and participation of youth, disabled persons and the elderly in the development process, for the prevention of crime and juvenile delinquency and for the administration of criminal justice.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

116. To support the efforts of member States by assisting them in the design, implementation, and evaluation of appropriate policies, programmes, strategies, and services for the effective integration and participation of youth, disabled persons and the elderly in social and economic life, for the effective prevention of crime and juvenile delinquency, and administration of criminal justice in the context of overall national development.

(c) Problems addressed

117. Population projections indicate that the youth population in African countries will far exceed the present estimated 20 per cent by the end of the century, pointing to the youthful characteristics of Africa's population. Available data show that measures in terms of policies and programmes so far taken towards meeting the needs, aspirations and problems of youth in the region are far from being adequate. Consequently, youth unemployment, underemployment, illiteracy, rural exodus, juvenile delinquency and crime are still on the rise in most African countries. The economic and social crisis of the 1980s has aggravated this situation and made youth a much more vulnerable group. Timely and balanced policy and programme intervention are therefore required to minimize the wastage of Africa's largely untapped reservoir of human resources.

118. An estimated 50 million cases of disability are found in Africa. Inadequate programmes of primary health care and services, epidemics, malnutrition, hunger and starvation, natural calamities, environmental hazards including various forms of accidents, armed conflicts, civil strifes and wars of liberation are among the major causes of disability and its attendant handicapping effects. Effective measures are therefore necessary to prevent cases of disability, for the rehabilitation of disabled persons and for enhancing their participation and integration in the social and economic life of their countries.

119. In the traditional African family, the elderly enjoy and are accorded a privileged position in society. The process of modernization however, manifested by such factors as urbanization, industrialization, rising rates of rural-urban migration, changing social structures, and the advent of the nuclear family, is gradually transforming this unique position of the elderly in society. Yet little is known about the demographic, social and economic

status of the steadily growing elderly population in African countries. Measures are required in this direction as basis for planning and implementing appropriate policies and programmes.

120. The rising rates of crime, both conventional and non-conventional, pose a serious threat to the economic and social well-being of African countries. Besides impairing the quality of life, crime interferes and even nullifies some of Africa's hard-won development gains. Thus, timely and appropriate policies and programmes in crime prevention and in the administration of criminal justice are essential.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

121. It is expected that by 1991 studies, seminars, advisory services and meetings conducted by the secretariat in addressing the issues of youth, disability, aging and crime prevention and criminal justice would have provided some indication on the situation of youth in both the rural and urban areas, the extent of juvenile delinquency and its social and economic consequences, the causes, types and prevalence of impairment and disability in African countries, availability of institutions, facilities and services for disabled and aging persons, existing national policies and measures in crime prevention and criminal justice as well as the impact of crime on the social and economic development of African countries. Since these issues would not have been adequately tackled, African countries still require assistance in devising appropriate interventions.

(iii) The period 1992-1997

122. In order to achieve the stated objectives of this subprogramme, a number of activities will be undertaken including the following:

(a) Action-oriented research as basis for the formulation, implementation and evaluation of effective and relevant social policies, programmes, strategies and services relating to youth, crime prevention and criminal justice, disabled and aging persons;

(b) Training courses, workshops, seminars, expert meetings, study tours, meetings as fora for the exchange of ideas and experience and for the formulation of common strategies;

(c) Support in the establishment of and strengthening of appropriate national organizations, associations, co-ordinating bodies and structures;

(d) Technical advisory services to member States to assist in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of relevant social policies, programmes and services in the field of youth, crime prevention and criminal justice and for disabled and elderly persons;

(e) Publication of technical reports, directories and guidelines;

(f) Promotion of joint strategies and co-operation, technical support to and co-operation with regional institutions such as the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) and the African Institute for the Prevention

of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) through operational activities; and

(g) Publicity and information services.

SUBPROGRAMME 12: DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

123. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is Commission resolutions 534 (XX), 581 (XXI), 600 (XXII) and 658 (XXIV).

(b) Objectives

124. To develop and maintain a series of numeric and non-numeric data bases for storage and dissemination of development information to be used for the exchange of development information with member States; to train personnel from member States in computerized development information management; to assist member States, subregional and regional institutions in the introduction and utilization of up-to-date methods of information processing and dissemination and to develop and encourage acceptance of norms and standards for harmonization of development documentation and information.

(c) Problems addressed

125. Researchers, planners and decision-makers in member States, as well as subregional and regional development institutions, lack ready access to the information they need for development planning because of, inter alia, shortage of trained personnel in information management, outdated methods of information processing and dissemination and lack of norms and standards for harmonization of development documentation and information. All this must be considered in the context of the rapidity of change in information technology worldwide, and the lag in its adoption in the African region.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

126. Much of planning for development will continue to be carried out in African member States with insufficient data and information; in most of these States manual methods for information processing and mechanical means of information dissemination will still be in use. Few information personnel will have been trained in automated methods of information management. A number of incompatible standards for information processing will be in use.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

127. The activities to be carried out are of a continuing nature and should be seen in the context of Commission resolution 658 (XXIV) mentioned above, which changed the designation of the ECA unit responsible for implementation of this subprogramme, from the Pan-African Documentation and Information system to the Pan-African Development Information System (PADIS). The activities include:

(a) Advisory services on development information management, information systems and information technology;

(b) Training of staff of national, subregional and regional institutions in computerized information handling techniques, harmonization of standards and methodologies and utilization of the PADIS network;

(c) Continued maintenance and development of numeric and non-numeric data bases on social and economic development in Africa, utilizing improved information technology, for exchange of information derived therefrom with national, subregional and regional participating centres as well as for dissemination to public users;

(d) Publication and other dissemination at regular intervals of selected data base contents and other hardcopy data base-derived information products, including the PADIS Newsletter;

(e) Development and dissemination of guidelines for the utilization of the PADIS system; and

(f) Technical co-operation activities with member States to assist them in improving development information management, for overall development as well as in specific priority areas, such as women in development.

SUBPROGRAMME 13: ENVIRONMENT IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

128. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is contained in Commission resolutions 238 (XI), 239 (XI), 264 (XII), 265 (XII), 280 (XII), 303 (XIII), 305 (XIII), 308 (XIII), 313 (XIII), 332 (XIV), 339 (XIV), 378 (XV), 388 (XV), 398 (XV), 419 (XVI), 439 (XVI), 440 (XVII), 472 (XVIII), 496 (XIX), 499 (XIX), 528 (XIX), 540 (XX), 578 (XXI), 621 (XXII), 636 (XXIII), 641 (XXIII), 645 (XXIII) and 651 (XXIII) and General Assembly resolutions 36/190, 42/182, 42/183, 42/184, 42/185, 42/186, 42/187, 42/188, 42/189, 43/53, 43/96, 43/202 and 43/212.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

129. The intergovernmental objectives are to:

(a) Develop and/or strengthen national, subregional and regional environmental capabilities including policy guidelines, legislative and administrative mechanisms for incorporating environmental dimensions into social and economic planning for sustainable national development;

(b) Promote sound environmental management for the conservation of natural resources for sustainable social and economic development;

(c) Sustain pollution control activities, particularly those dealing with transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and potentially toxic materials.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

130. The objectives of the secretariat are to assist member States in developing and strengthening national, subregional and regional capabilities needed for environmental management, assessment and conservation. Emphasis will be laid on the development of institutional and manpower capabilities including policy guidelines, legislative and administrative mechanisms for the environmentally sound management and conservation of natural resources, pollution control and the promotion of environmental awareness.

(d) Problems addressed

131. Events over the past few years in Africa - drought, desertification, and recently, the dumping of hazardous wastes - have highlighted the importance of environmental management for environmentally sound and sustainable development. Member States have expressed through the various resolutions cited above the urgent need for assistance in developing national, subregional and regional capabilities for implementing programmes aimed at achieving sustainable development through sound environmental management.

(e) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

132. At the end of 1991, the level of environmental activity will have significantly increased as a result of assistance provided to member States, in collaboration with agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations working on environmental matters in Africa, particularly in the areas of:

(a) Technical co-operation for developing environmental capabilities, including the development of manpower capabilities; and

(b) Environmental assessment and management relating to the impacts of the development and utilization of natural resources, and pollution control.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

133. During the period 1992-1997, advisory services, workshops, seminars and, if possible, fellowships and study tours will be organized for policy and decision-makers in order to help them to develop and/or strengthen their national capabilities for environmental management, assessment and conservation for sustainable development. Publications and activity reports will be made to promote environmental awareness.

134. In addition, studies will be carried out with other field activities in the area of the management and conservation of natural resources and pollution control. This will be done with the view to establishing guidelines for environmental impact studies.

SUBPROGRAMME 14: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

135. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 32/162, and 42/191; Commission resolutions 316 (XIII) and 408 (XVI) and the resolution on human settlements of the fourth meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Regional Committee on Human Settlements and Environment and recommendations of the fifth meeting of the same Committee.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

136. The intergovernmental objectives of this subprogramme are to:

(a) Promote the development of a data base on human settle-ments development issues;

(b) Promote rural transformation and improve the quality of life and of the built-up environment within which the population live and work;

(c) Strengthen and develop training programmes in member States;

(d) Promote policies, programmes and projects for redressing the prevailing rural/urban imbalances and accelerate the integration of the rural economy into the mainstream of the national economic development process;

(e) Prepare and implement shelter projects with a view to accelerating the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000;

(f) Promote the development and efficient management of an indigenous construction sector including the production of local building materials within an enabling administrative and financial environment susceptible of attracting venture capital to this sector;

(g) Mobilize resources for the implementation of human settlements programmes and projects and infrastructure planning and design in Africa.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

137. The objectives of the secretariat are to assist member States and other organizations and agencies in the formulation and implementation of coherent regional (subnational) policies, programmes and projects for:

(a) The decentralization of economic activities from major cities and the restructuring of rural enclaves;

(b) Directing more resources to the rural sector for the provision of infrastructure and services commensurate with the supporting role the rural area is expected to play in the national economy;

(c) The integration of the rural economy in the overall development process which will highlight the function of specific rural areas in the

overall physical development plan and therefore the location and type of infrastructure and services to be provided in, as well as resources to be directed to the rural hinterland;

(d) The establishment and/or strengthening of the indigenous construction sector including the development of locally produced building materials within a decentralized administrative and financial framework susceptible of accelerating the participation of the private sector and the local population in the provision of infrastructure and services;

(e) The promotion of an enabling environment in conformity with the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000; and

(f) A systematic exchange of information and experiences between member States in the field of human settlements development.

138. In addition, the secretariat will assist member States in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of human settlements programmes and projects as well as in the co-ordination of the development of their training programmes in the field of physical planning and construction management and techniques.

(c) Problems addressed

139. In view of the adverse economic situation and the lack of qualified physical planners and skilled resource personnel, the prevailing human settlements situation in African countries is not expected to evolve sufficiently by the beginning of the planned period.

140. The dearth of rural infrastructure and services and the concentration of the decision-making process in the metropolis have triggered off mass migration from the rural hinterland. The resulting low density and scattered settlement pattern in rural Africa are largely responsible for the decline in productivity. In the process, the rural economy has been isolated from the mainstream of national development process. Concomitantly, the towns and major cities have faced overcrowding and dismal living conditions. Unemployment, underemployment the run-down urban fabric and the dearth of resources have left city authorities unable to cope with the provision of infrastructure and services. The conjuncture of urban ills and rural deprivation pervades all walks of life in most African countries and often frustrates development efforts.

141. The lack of trained personnel in physical planning and extension services for the implementation of planned activities are major constraints to the development process in Africa.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

142. Although all African countries have established human settlements programmes, integrated physical planning has received very little attention. The complementarity between rural and urban sectors has not been emphasized. The urban economy is almost entirely dependent on imported manufactured goods and services as well as skills and factor inputs for locally produced consumer

goods. The reliance on foreign construction firms and expertise has made rural transformation and urban renewal prohibitive.

143. The overwhelming majority of the population lives and still will live in rural areas where raw materials and agricultural potentials as yet unexploited are equally to be found. The rural population is cut off from the mainstream of the development process since the dearth of infrastructure and services deprive them of markets to sell their produce and satisfy their most urgent needs. The resulting enclave economies are largely responsible for the poor economic performance of the majority of African countries.

144. The Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 would have helped member States to formulate shelter strategy, programmes and projects to the year 2000.

145. However, inadequate training facilities and institutions for physical planning and the construction sector are major constraints to the capacity of member States for planning their territories coherently and implementing rural transformation and urban renewal projects effectively. The lack of trained personnel will also be a major bottleneck in the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

146. The thrust of activities will focus on:

(a) The organization of workshops, the provision of advisory services, upon request, preparation of studies, reports and technical publications with a view to assisting member States in formulating and implementing policies, programmes and projects on physical and regional (subnational) planning which will emphasize the location of infrastructure and services as well as the efficient distribution of activities and population along with an appropriate administrative and financial framework for accelerated rural reconstruction and decentralization of major cities. The secretariat will assist member States in the mobilization of resources in the implementation of these activities;

(b) Assistance to member States on studies, technical publications, pre-investment studies, organization of seminars and workshops for government officials, entrepreneurs and officials from financial institutions as well as mobilizing resources both locally and internationally for the promotion of an indigenous construction sector including the production of local building materials operating within an enabling environment conducive to private sector investment and local community participation;

(c) Assistance to member States on the promotion of a network of training centres and institutions each specializing in its field of excellence, for the training of physical and regional planners as well as extension resource personnel for the implementation of planned activities;

(d) Assistance to member States in the formulation and implementation of shelter strategies in conformity with the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000; and

(e) Assistance to member States in the collection and processing of data and in the field of human settlements with a view to establishing a regional data base which will provide member States with a basis for exchanging valuable experiences and data.

SUBPROGRAMME 15: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

147. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is Commission resolutions 491 (XIX), para. 14; 531 (XX), para. 9; 564 (XXI), para. 5; and 588 (XXII), para. A(m), B(c,d,e and f), CIII (c and e) and CIV (f); and General Assembly resolutions A/Res/S-13/2 (annex) and 41/191, para. 6.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

148. To promote self-reliant and self-sustaining industrial development at national, subregional and regional levels through industrial co-operation; to improve the performance of the industrial sector which should play the role of engine of growth and bring about the structural transformation of African economies; to develop capabilities for the formulation of industrial policies, strategies and plans, for the identification, preparation and implementation of national and multinational industrial projects, for formulating and conducting training programmes in production, management and marketing; to establish appropriate institutional infrastructures with a view to bring about the rehabilitation and rationalization of existing industries and the creation of basic and agro- and forest-based industries with strong linkages among industrial subsectors and between industry and other sectors at national, subregional and regional levels; and to promote industrial co-operation, development of technology, maintenance and technological and industrial manpower.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

149. To assist governments and intergovernmental organizations in the development and promotion of capabilities for the formulation of industrial policies, plans and strategies geared towards industrial rehabilitation, improvement of industrial productivity and rationalization of existing industrial structure; to promote industrial programmes and projects aimed at creating national or multinational resource-based and core engineering industries; to promote technological and entrepreneurial capabilities especially for small-scale industries; to assist in building and strengthening subregional and regional institutions for industrial development in the fields of technology, standardization, production and management; and to evaluate the input of the secretariat's activities on industrial development in Africa (1998-1999).

(c) Problems addressed

150. National, subregional and regional industrial policies and strategies formulated at the eve of independence have given rise to the establishment of

import-intensive and technologically dependent industries in most African countries both in the consumer- and capital-goods subsectors. In addition, most of these industries were not designed towards the satisfaction of the needs of a large part of domestic market. As a result, not only basic industries such as chemical engineering and metal industries have not been given adequate attention in most of African countries or subregions, but excessive dependence on imported factor inputs coupled with narrow effective demand, have turned many industries into non-profitable ventures. Thus, there was widespread under-utilization of installed capacity or closing down of many industries. In addition, small-scale industries which are supposed to create employment and contribute substantially to the development of African economies are not yet well developed and promoted. Also, the industrial sector has failed to establish a dynamic link with the agriculture sector.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

151. The follow-up subregional meetings on the promotion of intra-African industrial co-operation within the framework of the IDDA 1988-1990 will result in the updating of the projects already identified or in the identification of new ones in the category of basic industries. In doing so, past experiences and constraints would be fully taken into account so that the projects concerned are well defined including such aspects as markets, factor inputs technology and manpower requirements. It is also expected that the role of the industry in the structural transformation of African economies would be better recognized and fully taken into account in national and subregional programmes and plans.

152. The development of small-scale, cottage and rural industries is increasingly given priority attention by African Governments. Thus, by the end of 1991, there will be greater awareness of the role that small-scale industries would have to play in the building up of a sound and self-sustained industrial base characterized by the existence of linkages within the industrial sector and between industry and other sectors. However, the development of small-scale industries will, by 1991, still be confronted by such problems as lack of entrepreneurial capability, difficult access to essential inputs and finance, weak institutional support and inadequate physical infrastructure. The subsector will still, to a certain extent, operate in isolation from the industrial sector and other sectors of the economy.

153. As far as agro- and forest-based industries are concerned, advisory services being provided to governments together with policy changes being initiated by governments in compliance with the UN-PAAERD are likely to result by the end of 1991, in the rehabilitation of most of existing food processing industries and the identification of new projects. In this regard, it is expected that many countries would have embarked on policies of food security in which food processing industries would play a major role.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

154. Studies and technical publications on the problems faced by African industries will be prepared and advisory services provided to member States with a view to developing and promoting capabilities for formulation of

industrial policies and strategies geared towards restructuring and rehabilitating the industrial sector at national, subregional and regional levels. Workshops and seminars for government officials and individual entrepreneurs will be organized with a view to promoting small-scale industries and ensuring that these industries are integrated into the development process in satisfying essential needs and establishing backward and forward linkages. Training programmes will also be prepared and conducted in order to improve and strengthen capabilities in industrial planning and programming, project identification, planning, appraisal, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; rehabilitation of existing industries and increasing capacity utilization within the framework of subregional economic groupings; and engineering design and manufacturing. Such activities will be organized in collaboration with institutions such as the Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), the African Regional Centre for Engineering Design and Manufacturing (ARCEDEM), the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT) and the African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO).

155. Research papers will be prepared in such areas as development of technological and managerial skills, raw materials supply, selection of product lines, marketing and distribution with a view to proposing appropriate measures for the promotion of small-scale industries (1992-1997). The studies will also indicate the type of linkages to be established between small-scale industries and other industries and how they can be integrated into national economies. Activities will also include studies on the most efficient means of providing physical infrastructures for small- and medium-scale industries in the areas of water, electricity, building (i.e., industrial estates) and roads. Directories of project profiles based on both field work and desk studies will be prepared on subregional basis covering techno-economic information, including products to be manufactured, process descriptions, capacity and specification of plant and machinery, raw materials and other inputs. Seminars, workshops and study tours, including on-the-job training, will be used intensively to improve the capabilities of small-scale entrepreneurs.

156. Activities in the field of basic industries will include the provision of technical advisory services and assistance in the preparation, appraisal and promotion of identified projects in basic and related industries. Although prominence will be given to activities related to the rehabilitation and rationalization of existing basic industries during 1992-1997, the activities to be undertaken during this period will also include the promotion of new projects that would have to be selected in the revised subregional integrated programmes.

157. The above activities will be supplemented by consultation and negotiation meetings of governments and intergovernmental organizations with a view to reaching decisions on project development in terms of markets, natural resources, prefeasibility and feasibility studies as well as investment meetings with potential partners and donors. The main objective is for countries concerned and their partners to come together and agree to jointly rehabilitate an existing industry or promote a new project. Other activities will include workshops, study tours and in-plant training.

158. Major activities in the field of agro- and forest-based industries will include preparation of technical studies and provision of technical advisory

services to governments on the rehabilitation and upgrading of some of the identified agro- and forest-based industries (1992-1997); identification, preparation, appraisal and promotion of projects aimed at expanding food preservation and processing industries (1992-1997); organization of training courses, seminars and study tours on managing agro- and forest-based industries with special emphasis on the aspects of preservation, processing and storage of food (1992-1997); and organization of consultations among African Governments and promotional meetings between African Governments and potential donors and partners (1992-1997).

SUBPROGRAMME 16: TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION

(a) Legislative authority

159. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolution 35/64 on A/S-11/14, S-13/2 annex; UNCTAD resolution 127 (V) and Commission resolutions 54 (XX) and 568 (XXI).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

160. To enhance Africa's social and economic development prospects through the adoption of appropriate measures, policies and strategies for the expansion of domestic, intra-African and external trade; to develop or strengthen institutions for subregional trade co-operation by making them more operational and responsive to Africa's trade requirements; and to develop a common negotiating position in all international conferences on trade.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

161. To make regular reviews and analysis of the domestic, intra-African and external trade situations, problems and policies of African countries with a view to proposing appropriate strategies; to provide technical support, advisory services and intellectual leadership to member States in their programmes for trade development, trade promotion, and trade co-operation during international conferences and negotiations.

(c) Problems addressed

162. The low level of domestic trade is characterized by lopsided distribution and marketing policies in which serious shortages of consumption of goods and food exist side-by-side with surpluses within the same economy; and the low priority accorded to the rural areas in trade services and information as well as trade financing and credit; the declining role and importance of intra-African trade in the development process and the absence of significantly visible gains from existing intra-African trade co-operation institutions and machineries coupled with problems of marketing techniques; the continued prohibitive tariff and non-tariff barriers to intra-African trade even where treaties for co-operation explicitly call for trade liberalization within the preferential trade areas; the problem of improving Africa's external sector in the face of continued dominance of primary commodity exports in Africa's external trade and how to diversify such trade

through increasing exports of manufactured, processed and semi-processed goods; and how to promote trade between African and other developing countries in consistence with the strategies for trade diversification and import substitution. The lack of up-to-date and reliable trade statistics and information as well as poor marketing strategies and export techniques will also institute a priority problem to be addressed.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

163. Due to rigidities in the African production and trade structures, the trade situation at the end of 1991 will continue to be disappointing. Domestic trade will have improved only slightly as priorities continue to be placed on external trade. This will be aggravated by the low purchasing power of the rural populations especially in the informal and subsistence sectors. At the African level, although intra-African trade co-operation institutions will have been fully established in all subregions including North Africa, but the lack of real commitment and resources will prevent these institutions from being fully operational. Consequently, the share of intra-African trade to total Africa's trade will still remain at an average level below 5 per cent, but in individual cases such as the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA), the share of intra-PTA trade will have grown much faster than its trade with the rest of Africa. Commodity trade exports will continue to dominate Africa's export efforts in 1991, and very little advantage would have been taken of the new Africa-EEC convention to shift the structure of production towards diversification. The new single European Common Market (which is to be realized in 1992, will cast a shadow on Africa's overall ability to penetrate that market or to maintain its current share of trade in the wake of more keenly competitor from other developing regions especially the newly industrialized countries.

164. Exceptions to these will include a few countries (Zimbabwe, Kenya, Cameroon, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco) which have the capacity and the means to ensure real trade diversification. The outlook of the least developed African countries in the field of trade will be even more gloomy because of other pressing problems such as resources constraints in financing production and trade.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

165. The strategy for the period 1992-1997 will be significantly different from the previous medium-term plan periods at least in two ways. Firstly, the period of institution building for trade promotion and co-operation will be over and new efforts will be directed towards strengthening and operationalizing them. Secondly, policies towards restructuring the external sector through the manufacturing and processing of primary commodity exports will need to be vigorously implemented. It is also unlikely that the prices of many primary commodities would increase to a level sufficient to support development. Therefore, the African countries have no choice but to adopt alternative structural adjustment programmes and strategies that can ensure an increased share of world trade in manufactured, industrial and processed goods. The strategy for this period will focus on inward-looking measures for the development and expansion of domestic and intra-African trade and top priority and strengthening related institutional capabilities to eventually

form the basis for new external trade relations. This should be supported by better techniques for trade promotion, information and marketing.

SUBPROGRAMME 17: MONETARY AND FINANCIAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

(a) Legislative authority

165. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolution 42/198, para. 1 and Commission resolution 54 (XX).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

167. The intergovernmental objectives of the subprogramme are to promote orderly and effective monetary and financial co-operation at the subregional and regional levels as a means of enhancing better management of resources including external debt; to strengthen existing institutional machinery for co-operation and consultation and to increase the exchange of information on development financing and investments; to establish where appropriate subregional and regional monetary and financial institutions and more especially the African Monetary Fund and an African payments union; and to develop a common position in international monetary and financial negotiations and other forums.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

168. The objectives of the secretariat are to provide advisory services to African countries in defining and strengthening monetary and financial policies including the adoption of better systems of management of domestic and external resources including external debts to assist subregional and regional monetary and financial institutions in identifying and implementing policies, strategies and programmes designed to promote or strengthen co-operation in this field; to provide technical support to African countries during international meetings or negotiations on monetary and financial issues.

(c) Problems addressed

169. During the 1980s the African monetary and financial situation had deteriorated to a point where existing policies, structures and institutions were unable to support reasonable or sustained rates of growth and development. During the Medium-term Plan period 1992-1997 the major focus will include: halting or reversing the unfavourable internal and external imbalance of African countries, the downward trends in resource inflows especially on concessional terms and the flight of capital. New practical and more imaginative solutions will have to be found to deal with the mounting external debt-service obligations including arrears build-up and of increasing external earnings of the African countries. At the national and subregional levels, solutions must be found to the problems of inadequacy of financing including the low domestic savings. Although many financial and monetary institutions have been created and are operational, the member States are paradoxically not in practice relying on or using them to provide technical support and advisory services in this area. Therefore, it will

also be the objective of the programme to undertake an indepth evaluation of these institutions with a view to recommending more practical and implementable policies and measures to enhance greater confidence and use of national and subregional monetary and financial institutions that have been created to serve the countries in this field.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

170. At the end of 1991, the African monetary and financial situation will have generally deteriorated with a larger development financing gap, increased accumulated arrears on debt servicing and the overall debt stock, and a general inability to cope with an increasingly less favourable international monetary and financial environment. However, with new and mutually agreed structural adjustment programmes in place, the donor community would more likely have increased their resource commitment to African countries especially the poorer ones. The subregional monetary and financial institutions, particularly the payments and clearing arrangements, will still be too weak and ineffective to provide the support required by member States in this area. Some progress would have been achieved in domestic resources management through belt-tightening measures but it is unlikely that significant increases in domestic savings would have occurred.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

171. The strategy will involve a combination of short- and medium-term monetary and financial policies and measures designed to tackle the most pressing problems. These will include:

(a) An evaluation of the monetary and financial implications of alternative structural adjustment programmes;

(b) The indepth evaluation of the impacts of external developments on the African economies, particularly the new monetary arrangements in the European Monetary System in 1992;

(c) The strengthening of existing institutions for intra-African monetary and financial co-operation and the establishment and operationalization of an African Monetary Fund;

(d) More intensive programmes and policies for domestic and external resources management including more especially the external debt;

(e) New measures for attracting direct foreign investments especially in subregional and regional projects and programmes; and

(f) Measures aimed at fostering increased self-reliance in financing development.

SUBPROGRAMME 18: LAND MINERAL RESOURCES,NON-LIVING MARINE RESOURCES AND LEGAL ASPECTS OF MARINE AFFAIRS

(a) Legislative authority

172. The legislative authority of this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI), para. 4 (e), (f), (g) and (j); 3202 (S-VI) para. 1.1, IV (e) and 37/66 para. 7; the Convention on the Law of the Sea. sections III and IV of part XI and annexes III and IV; (A/S-11/14 paragraphs 79 and 80); the Lusaka Programme of Action on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa (March 1985) and the Kampala Programme of Action on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa (June 1988).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

173. The general intergoverrmental objective is to restore the viability of the African mining industry and its competitiveness within the framework of the international market, through the formulation and implementation of strategies and programmes for the revitalization and modernization of this sector. This calls for the promotion of the development of capabilities for rational assessment, management, development and utilization of land-based and sea-bed mineral resources as well as for their growing integration in downstream industries; the promotion of the enhancement of the Africa's conventional and sea-bed mineral base through inventories of mineral raw materials required to sustain domestic industries and supply international markets; the promotion of the harmonization of government policies and development programmes, and the promotion of mineral development financing including those encompassed by the enterprise which is the recognized sea-bed mining operating organization under the control of the International Sea-bed Authority.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

174. The general objective of the secretariat is to assist member States in their continuous efforts to gain greater performance and control in mineral and metal production and marketing in order to squeeze higher net benefits out of the sector; therefore it will aim at promoting the establishment and assist in the implementation of multinational co-operation activities related to exploration, exploitation, development and utilization of land-based and sea-bed mineral resources; assisting member States of the region in improving their knowledge base of profitable mineral resources and in their effective development and utilization; and assisting member States in expanding institutional capabilities for a rational exploration of their mineral wealth in both the land-based, sea-bed and/or the Exclusive Economic Zone context.

(c) Problems addressed

175. Considering the important contribution of minerals in Africa's socio-economic development and taking into consideration the region's legitimate aspiration to become more closely involved in all aspects of mineral resources development whether applicable to land-based or sea-bed occurrences, the need arises to strengthen the national documentation and

information systems for all aspects of the mineral sector, which are still weak in spite of some efforts made so far by member States, and to develop the activities of multinational mineral resources development centres, with respect to the collection and dissemination of geological information; the accelerated pace of mineral inventories in the region and its Exclusive Economic Zone; the implementation of exploration programmes; the enhancement of extraction and processing technologies, the acquisition of negotiating skills, the formulation of policies; and the establishment of subregional mineral resources development and marine geology and ocean engineering centres.

176. In the light of falling consumption patterns of mineral commodities, Africa's concern will be to improve the economic performance of existing operations. In an attempt to diversify from the conventional range of base ferrous and non-ferrous minerals produced, greater emphasis will be placed on stepping up production in the precious minerals and metal sector, minor metals, industrial minerals and fertilizer raw materials so as to satisfy growing domestic needs and develop a stronger mineral-based industry in the region.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

177. The falling performance of the mining sector in developing Africa due mainly to the alarming oversupply situation, low competitiveness of the African mining industry against other producers and the declining world consumption pattern of minerals and metals, as well as their growing substitution by synthetic materials, has enhanced the urgent need for an accelerated wide-based revitalization of the mineral sector. Likewise, the lack of technical and legal capabilities to take part in the exploration, exploitation, development, utilization and management of the non-living marine resources in reducing the prospects of a timely participation of the African region in this new field. There is a need to assess the current policies and practices, which have proved inadequate to cope with the pace of technical developments, with a view to evolving national mineral development policies, that will promote minerals exploration, exploitation and processing technologies and sustain the African mining sector in the face of challenges encountered since the beginning of the 1980s. Little progress has been made by member States in the building up of technical knowledge of their mineral resources base, and this situation underlines once more the need to restructure existing national mineral development policy in order to review and improve mineral exploration policies. In addition, a strategy for a positive growth of precious metals and minerals should be established. This strategy would include the assessment of the full potential for the development of small-scale mining for these minerals and metals; the assessment of the current status of small-scale mining for precious and semi-precious minerals in Africa, whether illicit or not; and the review of the legislative and fiscal regimes governing the small-scale mining for precious and semi-precious minerals and metals, in order to curb illicit mining which is attaining a worrisome dimension which corrective legal and policy measures have failed to arrest in an attempt to preserve individual countries' mineral heritage and ensure its rational exploitation.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

178. The secretariat will endeavour to assist member States in their efforts to restore their mineral sector to its former heights by helping governments in the elaboration of the right policies, and in the setting up of rehabilitation programmes in line with domestic priorities and following indications of favourable world trends which would best serve national, subregional and regional interests. Such commitments will encompass land-base and sea-bed mineral resources and will take into account all legal aspects pertaining to the problems encountered in the process of their development utilization. It would also assist member States in the building up of their technical knowledge of mineral resources, in carrying out technical studies (on all aspects of development and utilization) on selected minerals such as base commodities, ferrous and non-ferrous and fertilizers minerals and in compiling information on mineral resources inventories.

179. ECA will promote the small-scale land-based mining and low capital projects which are within the reach of national capabilities, to promote domestic mining alongside existing large-scale operations.

180. In the framework of advisory services rendered to countries and multinational institutions, ECA also hopes to assist African Governments to minimize the illicit mining of precious metals as well as gems, precious and semi-precious stones.

181. Regarding the development of national and multinational capabilities for mineral products, ECA will organize intra-African training activities by way of workshops, seminars and study tours focusing on aspects relating both to land-based and sea-bed mineral exploration and exploitation. Technical and managerial support will be lent to the two existing subregional mineral resources development centres established in the Central and Eastern and Southern African subregions. ECA will also take some steps towards the establishment of a similar centre in West Africa.

182. Concerning the dissemination of information, research and development studies leading to the production of technical publications on topics relating to financing, marketing production growth and forecasts of domestic and international consumption of minerals produced in the region will be carried out. This information will help member States in the formulation of their policies and long-term investment and development strategies.

SUBPROGRAMME 19: WATER RESOURCES

(a) Legislative authority

183. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolution S-13/2, Commission resolution ES-2/1 and ECOSOC resolution 1985/49.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

184. [illegible] programmes for the assessment, development and utilization of water resources and the adoption of appropriate measures to lessen the effects of floods and droughts with a view to improving the economic and social conditions within the region.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

185. To assist countries of the region to acquire a knowledge base of surface- and ground-water resources by improving national capabilities for the national exploitation and utilization of water resources; to promote regional and subregional co-operation in the use of shared water resources; to develop a regional strategy for the acceleration in the 1990s of the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Water Conference and to assist in the exchange of information and experience in harnessing water resources for socio-economic development.

(c) Problems addressed

186. The Mar del Plata Action Plan of the United Nations Water Conference in 1977 contained far-reaching recommendations for accelerating water resources development in the African region. These recommendations were also adopted as a regional strategy in the Lagos Plan of Action in 1980. So far, progress has severely been affected by the economic crisis and natural disasters during the 1980s. Progress with the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990) in Africa has similarly been disappointing with three-quarters of the rural population still having no access to safe drinking water or sanitation facilities.

187. The next decade will see rapid increases in urban populations with consequent severe pressure on social services including water supplies. There will be difficulties in ensuring balanced development between rural and urban areas with an increased need for sound planning and appropriate institutional frameworks for achieving equitable socio-economic development.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

188. Water resources development in Africa supports many sectors of economic activity as well as being a basic necessity for social development. It is a key factor in economic recovery and development and the secretariat through its co-ordinating role at regional level will have helped to focus activities of the United Nations system on key areas such as agriculture and multi-sectoral subregional development and emphasized the need for increased investment in the water resources sector.

189. By 1991, with the assistance of other organizations and agencies, the secretariat will have formulated a strategy for accelerating water resources development in Africa during the 1990s. This will include identifying

priority programmes and activities for both countries and external support agencies.

(ii) The period 1992-1993

190. The programme will focus on promoting the implementation of the strategy for Africa. Research and analysis of policy issues will be directed towards monitoring the implementation of the strategy, informing member States of progress, constraints and changing priorities, and evaluating the socio-economic impact of the programmes and activities.

191. Technical assistance and advisory services will be provided to member States in the fields of planning, development of institutional capabilities, assessment of water resources and river and lake basin development. Reports and technical publications will be produced to assist national experts in the implementation of water resources development activities. This will be supplemented by training courses and study tours particularly in the field of water resources development in arid areas. To fulfil its co-ordinating role, the secretariat will continue to promote the exchange of information and experience and encourage the exchange of views on development priorities and strategies through the medium of regional technical meetings and ad hoc expert group meetings.

SUBPROGRAMME 20: ENERGY AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

192. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 35/56, 36/172, 37/237, annex, chapter XI, para. 71-73, Commission resolution 572 (XXI), and the Nairobi Programme of Action.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

193. To encourage the development of energy resources in Africa so as to ensure indigenous and self-sustained development and to promote the diversification of energy sources in order to provide higher standards of living in rural areas by making better use of all sources of energy particularly new and renewable sources.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

194. The general objectives of the secretariat in the energy field are to initiate and actively implement measures leading to exploration, evaluation and development of energy resources in Africa; to assist governments in the integration of energy policies into general socio-economic growth and development policies in Africa; and to promote multinational co-operation activities related to the exploration, exploitation, development and utilization of conventional and new and renewable sources of energy especially in rural areas.

Africa will have been updated every year. Technical publications on operational and organizational aspects of hydropower and coal resources utilization for government officials will also have been completed.

200. The training of a good number of African researchers, engineers and technicians in the field of energy planning and the development of new and renewable sources of energy will also have been undertaken.

201. A number of workshops on energy planning, energy supply and demand projections, energy management and on increased utilization of coal resources in Africa and meetings on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in Africa and on mobilization of financial resources for the development of NRSE in Africa will have been organized.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

202. This subprogramme will be oriented towards integrated and balanced development of both conventional and new and renewable sources of energy in Africa. In this connection, assistance will be provided to member States and their intergovernmental organizations in undertaking a systematic and comprehensive inventory of conventional and renewable sources of energy and analyzing the conditions for their exploration, exploitation, distribution and use in order to establish the optimum conditions for their development and formulating integrated energy policies and integrating them into overall socio-economic development and economic growth policies.

203. Monitoring of the energy situation, the training of indigenous manpower and the collection and dissemination of information on energy will be continued. In this connection, studies on the organizational and operational aspects of energy resources such as petroleum and natural gas, coal and lignite, hydro-power and new and renewable sources of energy will be undertaken and investigations of the possibilities for the local manufacturing of electrical equipment parts and components and of equipment, using new and renewable sources of energy, will be undertaken.

204. The collection, as well as the updating of information on energy will also be continued as will the training of African researchers, engineers and technicians in the field of conventional and new and renewable sources of energy. Study tours will also be organized for African experts to developed and developing countries with experience in the utilization of new and renewable sources of energy.

SUBPROGRAMME 21: POPULATION IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

205. The legislation authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolution S-13/2, para. 4; ECOSOC resolution 1987/71, para. 3 (b) and 4; and Commission resolution 506 (XIX), para. 4.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

206. The intergovernmental objectives are to:

(a) Promote an integrated approach to population and development planning;

(b) Formulate and implement relevant population policies in the region;

(c) Bring about a balance between population growth and desired socio-economic development growth rates;

(d) Improve living conditions in rural areas to ensure self-reliant development aimed at reducing current rural to urban migration;

(e) Have adequately trained personnel to collect and analyse population and related data and integrate such information in socio-economic development planning; and

(f) Establish mechanisms for continuous flow of population information required in socio-economic development planning.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

207. The objectives of the secretariat are continued from the current plan and are reinforced by additional mandates which have emphasized the importance of population in socio-economic development. The secretariat's objectives are to:

(a) Facilitate the integration of population into socio-development planning in the region so that between 1992 and 1997, two manuals on integration of population variables in socio-economic development, especially on sectoral approach, will have been completed and made available for use by member States; to provide assistance to member States in setting up population commissions and population units;

(b) Encourage and assist member States to formulate and implement relevant population programmes and policies and evaluation of family planning programmes. It is hoped that about 15 countries, on request, would receive such assistance between 1992 and 1997;

(c) Provide assistance to member States in analysis and utilization of demographic data (10 to 15 countries are expected to receive such assistance, on request, between 1992 and 1997);

(d) Conduct at least four research studies each year between 1992 and 1997 on components of population dynamics and their relation to socio-economic development and on family planning programmes;

(e) Prepare population projections and estimates for use by member States (once every two years between 1992 and 1997);

(f) Intensify awareness of population issues in socio-economic development through dissemination of research studies, convening of workshops and conferences (Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers three times between 1992 and 1997 if the current tradition of holding it once every two years continues);

(g) Assist member States in establishing national population information systems (six countries to be assisted, on request, between 1992 and 1997); and

(h) Facilitate training of nationals from member States in population analysis and research and integration of population and development at the United Nations Regional Training Centre (RIPS) in Accra, Ghana, and IFORD, in Yaounde, Cameroon. Between 20 and 30 nationals are expected to be trained per year at each of these institutes between 1992 and 1997.

(c) Problems addressed

208. Although the situation on population data collection in many African countries has improved since these countries attained independence, demographic data still requires further improvement, in both quality and quantity. Not enough attention has been devoted to the analysis of demographic data for use in development planning. The formulation and implementation of relevant population policies in African countries has been hampered by, among other factors, lack of accurate data on population dynamics. Another major problem to be addressed is the lack of adequately trained personnel in member States to handle the integration of population and development issues in the development planning process. Although a number of nationals in member States have been trained in population analysis and use of research findings in the last few years, the demand for such personnel is far from being met. There is even greater need for training nationals from Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking African countries, who could not be trained at the existing United Nations population training centres in Africa. African countries do not have adequate infrastructure to facilitate the flow of population and related information to promote and enhance socio-economic development. Thus, there is need for the secretariat to assist member States in setting up and/or strengthening population information infrastructures.

209. There is now better perception of the problems of rapid growth and its impact on socio-economic development in Africa. Various research projects on population dynamics and their relation to socio-economic development have made some contribution towards this end. But there is need for the secretariat to continue to conduct research on population dynamics and its interrelationships with socio-economic development; preparation of population projections and estimates also still serve a critical need in global and sectoral planning, particularly in view of the availability and quality of the prevailing data.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

210. By the end of 1991, the secretariat would have completed studies concerning data analysis, estimation and projections of population parameters and assisted member States in the formulation and implementation of population

policies and programmes. These activities would have created awareness among member States to develop measures necessary to initiate integration of population variables into social and economic development planning. However, methodological problems about data collection and analysis still remain major constraints to facilitate integration of population variables into development planning. It is expected that a manual for the integration of population variables in African development plans (a) at macro and (b) at the agricultural sectoral level will have been completed by the secretariat and made available for use by member States by 1991. The problem of integration of population and development will hardly have been adequately tackled by then. Many countries are expected by the end of 1991 to seriously consider actual formulation of relevant population programmes and policies.

211. During the 1990 round of censuses (i.e., 1985-1994), the majority of African countries will have undertaken at least one census. However, by 1991, the analysis of these censuses will not have been completed in a number of countries. Meanwhile some countries are preparing for the next round of censuses (i.e., 1995 to 2004). By 1991, a number of research studies by the secretariat on population dynamics and their relation to socio-economic development would have been completed for use by member States.

212. Most of the countries will have utilized the training facilities at the population training centres in Accra, Yaounde or other institutions in the region or outside. Some countries will not have taken full advantage of the existing training facilities at Accra and Yaounde. The problem for assisting Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries in training their nationals will not be resolved by 1991. The Co-ordinating Unit of POPIN-Africa which was established in 1984 achieved some progress in identifying and establishing the National Participating Centres (NPCs). However, by the end of 1991, although some foundation for setting up population information infrastructure in member States would have been laid, the NPCs will not have been established in the majority of the member States.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

213. The secretariat will prepare manuals to enable member States to integrate population variables in development in selected sectoral areas between 1992 and 1997. Assistance will continue to be provided to member States in the formulation and implementation of relevant population programmes and policies through regional advisory services, on request. Assistance would also be provided to member States in setting up population units in planning offices, establishing population commissions; and organizing study tours in countries with successful population programmes and policies.

214. In view of the fact that many countries would have conducted censuses, it is hoped that in more than half of them, analysis would have to be undertaken during the period of the proposed plan. To speed up the analysis of data generated, it will be necessary for the secretariat to organize workshops in the member States on census data analysis and utilization. Advisory services, on-the-job training, as well as middle-level training for nationals in the countries will be continued.

215. Research studies will be prepared in areas of fertility, mortality, urbanization, population distribution and redistribution and migration; family planning and birth-spacing programmes; integration of population variables in

development planning; population policies; role and status of women; population and environment, and their relation to socio-economic development for use by member States. Population estimates and projections will also be undertaken by the secretariat once during each biennium. Training workshops on population estimates will also be convened.

216. The secretariat will intensify its activities to bring about increased awareness of population issues in development planning through dissemination of its research studies. Conferences, e.g., the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers (once every two years) and workshops and seminars will also be used as a means of enhancing awareness of population issues in socio-economic development.

217. The secretariat will adopt an aggressive policy for the creation of a greater awareness of population issues in the region particularly within the framework of the POPIN-Africa project. It will work closely with the agencies of the media and press at national and regional levels to achieve this goal. Motivation and user-sensitization seminars and workshops aimed at policy makers, planners and similar groups will be held once every year. Advisory missions, on request, will be undertaken to assist countries in setting up national information systems or training of their nationals in population information.

218. To facilitate training of nationals of member States in population analysis and research and integration of population in development planning, the secretariat will continue to encourage member States to take advantage of such training at the two United Nations Regional Training Institutes, RIPS and IFORD. The secretariat will also encourage member States to take increased interest in and give adequate financial support to the two institutes. The secretariat will also attempt to arrange some training for nationals from Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking African countries.

SUBPROGRAMME 22: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND FISCAL AFFAIRS IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

219. The legislative mandates for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions S-13/2 of 1 June 1986, annex II, para. (e) (i); and 41/182, para. 1 (a); Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/54, para. 3 and 1987/92, paras. 3 and 4.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

220. The intergovernmental objectives of the subprogramme are to strengthen public administration institutions, systems, practices and processes for improved management of economic development; promote the contribution of indigenous entrepreneurs in both the private and public sectors; improvement of the performance of public enterprises; the improvement of public financial management for efficient mobilization, allocation and control of financial resources; and measures to redress the shortage of skilled manpower for the management of the public services.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

221. To support the efforts of member States aimed at improving the performance of their public services and parastatals; assist in the formulation of sound fiscal policies and measures for mobilization and allocation of resources in accordance with development priorities through improved government taxation and budgetary systems respectively; suggest measures for effective control of public financial resources and assist in the strengthening of human resources development in public administration and finance.

(c) Problems addressed

222. The importance and range of state functions for national development have added new dimensions to the role of public administration and management systems in African countries. Despite efforts by governments in several African countries to improve the performance of their public services in the management of development, the results achieved as evidenced from the 1970s and 1980s economic crisis have been marginal. Numerous problems have been encountered and have embraced such crucial issues as the tardiness of the African civil service to transform itself from a colonial, rule-bound to a development-oriented one; the inadequate specialized skills, knowledge, capability and motivation which will help the African public service to respond effectively to development challenges involving planning, implementation and monitoring of production and productivity, distribution of the product of economic activities and the administration of economic and social policies, management of the problems of environmental hazards and various unforeseen political and natural catastrophes and crisis such as drought and famine. Measures have to be taken to make the African public services respond to the above challenges.

223. The contribution of the public enterprise sector to the process of economic development has failed to match expectations. State-owned enterprises which have been expected to provide financial surplus to the government budget have often required massive subsidization thus imposing fiscal burden on the national economy. There has been minimal accomplishment of the non-commercial objectives or goals set for African public enterprises. The status, modus operandi and performance of public enterprises will have to be evaluated and measures will need to be adopted to improve the performance of these enterprises and lessen the burden on the national budget.

224. Training institutions and programmes for the training of public administrators have not been geared to the management of economic and social development and have therefore impaired the performance of the public service.

225. There has been inadequate mobilization of domestic financial resources to finance both current and capital expenditures. This fiscal situation has given rise to incurring of heavy public debt and its attendant servicing burden. The contributory factors, among other issues, have been the narrow base of African taxation systems, and their inelasticity in responding to changes in social, economic and development objectives and programmes. With regard to expenditure programming, there has been no proper determination of programme priorities in accordance with development objectives for the allocation of financial resources thus resulting in growth in expenditures for those programmes and projects which do not contribute to growth and

development. The structure of government budgets in the majority of African countries still being based on line items and not on programmes and lack of budget-plan harmonization have contributed in no small measure to misallocation of resources.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

226. At the end of 1991, African Governments would have recognized, as a result of the 1970s and 1980s economic crisis, that their public service institutions and systems have still a very vital and important role to play in the development process and the success for sustained economic and social development depends in part on the efficiency, effectiveness, motivation and integrity of the public service as well as the efficient performance of their public enterprises. They would have also realized the need for adequate mobilization of domestic financial resources through improved taxation systems and administration and the efficient allocation of such resources in accordance with development priorities within the constraints imposed by available domestic financial resources.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

227. The following strategy will be pursued:

(a) Suggesting measures, through advisory services, at the request of member States, for improving the performance of the public service and parastatals in the development process and various aspects of the improvement in public financial management;

(b) Undertaking and publication of desk study reports on ways and means of improving the performance of the public service and public enterprises; programme and performance budgeting for better allocation of resources; restructuring of taxation systems for adequate mobilization of domestic resources and effective measures for controlling public expenditure;

(c) Dissemination of study reports to member States to serve as suggested guidelines for improving their public services and the management of public financial resources;

(d) Discussion of study reports in national, subregional and regional training courses, seminars and workshops to be organized in collaboration with requesting member States for their public administrators; and

(e) Assisting national efforts, through studies, advisory services, in strengthening the capabilities of national and subregional training and research institutions and associations dealing with improvement in public administration and management, budgetary and taxation systems, policies and administration.

SUBPROGRAMME 23: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN AFRICA

228. This subprogramme is divided into sections I, II and III.

Section 1: Policies and institutions for the development and application of science and technology

(a) Legislative authority

229. The legislative authority for this section derives from Commission resolutions 248 (XI), 332 (XIV), 386 (XX), 445 (XVII), General Assembly resolutions 3362 (S-VII), 3507 (XXX) and 34/218, and ECOSOC resolutions 1083 (XXXIX) and 1900 (LVII).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

230. To promote the establishment of organs necessary for the formulation of government policies and plans for the development and utilization of science and technology for economic and social development and for the creation of the supportive scientific and technological infrastructure of policies, institutions, manpower and technological services.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

231. To promote an understanding of the role of science and technology in economic and social development as well as the nature and levels of possible state intervention in order to ensure the attainment of the chosen development strategies; to undertake studies on national technology policies and plans; to foster the development of skills in the formulation of national policies and plans in science and technology, and in the assessment of technology; to develop and disseminate guidelines and methodologies for policy formulation and planning in science and technology, to be completed by end of 1993.

(c) Problems addressed

232. In spite of the often stated recognition of the role of science and technology in development, this is not fully reflected in the national development plans. The absence of specific strategies for the acquisition of the technologies required for all the stages of plan implementation leads to the non-implementation of many aspects of the development plans. The majority of African countries have no explicit policies for science and technology and the sporadic and often unco-ordinated initiatives in this area are inadequate to bring about concerted action in this field. The weak scientific infrastructure in many countries of the region, the weak linkages between the productive sector and the scientific and technological institutions, the absence of strategies to acquire technologies for the critical sectors are problems requiring concerted action.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

233. By the end of 1991, it is expected that the majority of African countries will have established or significantly strengthened their national machineries for co-ordinating science and technology activities, and explicit science and technology policies and plans will feature in the strategies of a number of countries in the region.

234. Subregional policies in science and technology would have been initiated based on the activities of the Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development. Specific rural technologies in food processing, and energy production based on the Asian model would have been diffused and replicated in the region.

235. By the end of 1991 member States would have been fully sensitized about the potential for a regional information system in science and technology as well as ATAS networks in strengthening co-operation among member States. Additional capabilities would have been acquired for negotiation and acquisition of technologies.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

236. The subprogramme will focus on the following areas:

(a) Technical assistance to relevant regional and subregional institutions in science and technology, e.g., the African Regional Centre for Technology the African Regional Organization for Standardization, the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (throughout the plan period);

(b) Assistance to governments in the establishment or strengthening of national, subregional and regional centres for technology including advance technology alert system (throughout the plan period);

(c) Diffusion of science and technology through intergovern-mental mechanisms, seminars, workshops on principles and procedures for the development of the science and technology components of the national development plans (starting second year of the first biennium); mobilization of local R&D to resolve critical problems facing small-scale food producers; technological assessment (second and third biennium),

(d) Studies on principles of technological policy-making and planning for development; technological assessment in the process of acquisition of technology (first biennium);

(e) Promotion of the diffusion, application and commercialization of research results through research and development corporations (throughout the plan period); and

(f) Assistance to governments in the development and implementation of inter-country projects identified by the subregional Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology Development (throughout the plan period).

Section 2: Strengthening of endogenous scientific and technological capability

(a) Legislative authority

237. The legislative authority for this section derives from Economic and Social Council resolutions 1083 (XXXIX), 1155 (XLI); General Assembly resolutions 2318 (XXII), 34/218, section 1, 35/56 on A/S-11/14, annex, paras. 129-144, S-1/2, annex; and Commission resolutions 158 (VIII), 238 (XI) and 332 (XIV), sections I and II, para. 7.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

238. To promote the development as rapidly as possible of the necessary personnel in the different categories of science and technology and of the effective utilization of their skills in the strengthening of the national capabilities in science and technology, provide infrastructure for the various education and training programmes.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

239. The general objectives of the secretariat are:

(a) To assist member States and their intergovernmental organizations in the development and utilization through appropriate education and training programmes of the required science and technology personnel;

(b) To diffuse skills in the methodologies for technology assessment, to formulate and execute need-based research and development plans (one of each in each biennium of the plan period); and

(c) To demonstrate to member States the use and replication of models of rural technology from developing countries.

(c) Problems addressed

240. One of the critical problems facing many African countries is the shortage of human resources required for the creation of science and technology infrastructure of manpower, knowledge, skills, innovative and productive capacities to absorb, adapt and apply foreign technologies on the one hand and on the other for local development of technologies for the exploitation of natural resources. Outputs of scientists and technologists are constrained by the limited physical facilities and shortage of specialists necessary for sound science and technology education, factors which limit students intake and also lead to non-availability of courses in several critical areas. Weak practical orientation in some courses and their irrelevance to the needs of the local environment leads to graduates who cannot effectively respond to the technical challenges of their societies. Unsatisfactory work conditions and the marginalization of the contribution of indigenous technical personnel in their countries have led to the brain drain and the subsequent worsening of the manpower situation.

241. The smallness of the economies of most African countries, and the lack of resources, make it difficult for the countries to develop the wide range of science and technology capabilities required for the attainment of their economic development goals. There is therefore a need to collaborate among themselves and with other developing and even developed countries in acquiring this capability as a necessary complement to individual national endeavours.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

242. By the end of 1991 several training institutions would have introduced innovations for improving practical training in engineering programmes, for the development of capabilities for local production of school science equipment, and for handling scientific and technological information.

243. By the end of 1991 a few member States would have incorporated policies for the development of the informal engineering sector.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

244. The implementation of the subprogramme will focus on the following activities:

(a) Assistance to African countries in raising the quality of science and technology manpower and gear training programmes to the productive needs of the economy (throughout the plan period);

(b) Studies on measures for increasing opportunities for women in scientific and technical fields both in training institutions as well as in employment (first biennium);

(c) Seminars and workshops on the development and utilization of local science and technology capabilities in the design and implementation of technical projects (throughout the plan period);

(d) Survey of measures for increasing public awareness and understanding of the role of science and technology in development in the African region (second biennium);

(e) Studies on the significance of brain drain in the scientific and technological manpower strategies of African countries (third biennium);

(f) Seminars and workshops on the transfer of technology among African countries through exchange of research results, information and scientific personnel (throughout the plan period);

(g) Studies on the promotion of subregional and regional technological associations and professional service institutions in Africa in order to improve development of the region (throughout the plan period); and

(h) Organization of study tours within and outside Africa for African experts to upgrade their skills in the development and use of technologies in critical sectors (second and third bienniums).

Section 3: Cartography and remote sensing

(a) Legislative authority

245. The legislative authority for this section derives from General Assembly resolutions 35/56 on A/S-11/14, 40/40, S-13/2 and annex and Commission resolution 602 (XXII).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

246. To promote the development of cartographic and remote sensing capabilities in African countries so that they can be self-reliant in providing their basic needs in the two disciplines in the context of socio-economic development; and encourage the strengthening of national cartographic and remote sensing services.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

247. To assist governments of member countries in strengthening their national, subregional and regional cartographic and remote sensing institutions, and establishing national institutions where none exist; to provide guidelines to member States for the establishment of national and regional geographic information systems (GIS) to address such issues as the inventorying, planning, development and management of natural resources, environmental monitoring including drought and desertification, and in overall socio-economic planning; African co-operative programmes in the establishment of a common geodetic datum, and African gravity standardization network and standardized specifications for topographical mapping in Africa; and to build up a comprehensive all-Africa map collection and documentation centre.

(c) Problems addressed

248. The inadequacy of geographical information and data continues to hinder the judicious planning and rational development of the national natural endowments in the continent. A large number of surveying, mapping and remote sensing projects in Africa continue to be carried out by agencies based abroad. These agencies are not centrally co-ordinated. Consequently, the cartographic data the world holds on Africa is incomplete and fragmented. Moreover, the lack of uniform specifications and a common geodetic datum for Africa make cartographic material unsuitable for planning regional or multinational development projects. The ineffectiveness of national policies and machinery for co-ordination of cartographic activities has led to duplication of efforts and expensive surveys. Studies conducted reveal that the demand for survey and mapping services excessively outweigh indigenous capacity to meet those demands given the present set-up and manpower in the continent. Training given outside the continent is not in most cases geared to managerial and production requirements of African nations.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

249. The transformation of the co-ordinates of the African Doppler Observations Surveys (ADOS) programme into national co-ordinate systems and the integration of gravimetric networks observations into the national gravity networks will have been completed. The post-ADOS workshops on the applications of geodetic and gravimetric surveys to planning and development will have taken place. Even then, geographical information and data will still be inadequate for the planning and developmental needs of member States. Africa will have adopted a standardized specification for topographical mapping at the scale of 1:50,000. The seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Africa will have been held. Arrangements for convening the eighth Conference will have commenced. Publication of the first edition of the atlas of the cartographic inventory for Africa will have been completed and distributed to member States. Preparations for the publication of the second edition of the atlas will have begun. Work on the standardization of other specifications for topographical mapping at other scales useful for planning will still be outstanding. The African gravity standardization network for engineering and map preparation necessary for resources development will have been completed, but the determination of a common geodetic datum for Africa will be outstanding. The Regional Remote Sensing information Systems programme within the Geographical Information System (GMS) package will have commenced but not fully functional.

250. A seminar and study tour for African planners and decision-makers on the role of cartography and remote sensing technology for development will have been conducted. Assessment of the impact on national policies regarding rating of cartography and remote sensing among national priorities will not have been conducted. The Map Documentation and Reference Centre will have published a revised edition of the catalogue of its current holdings. A compendium on cadastral regulations and land tenure policies in Africa, and proposals for development of land information systems (LIS) and also guidelines for the establishment of a common geodetic datum for Africa will have been published. But in spite of all these, the problems mentioned above will only be partially solved.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

251. The secretariat will continue to offer technical advisory services to member States so as to make their national institutions better responsive to their national cartographic and remote sensing needs for planning and development. As a result of the groundwork laid in the preceding period, as well as the long-term strategy for redressing Africa's weakened economic situation of the last decade, the strategy will emphasize:

(a) Greater participation in the formulation and execution of co-operative projects such as establishment of common geodetic standards and mapping specifications, etc.;

(b) Provision of guidance to the regional and subregional institutions to foster their growth and development; and assistance in the formulation of viable projects for self-substainance;

(c) Building up a geographic information data base for Africa through collection of maps and charts for the Map Documentation and Reference Centre as an all Africa map library. Such services will include assistance in developing capability to acquire and synthesize geographic information and data for rational exploitation of natural resources including their management;

(d) Conduct of one expert group meeting on standardized specifications for topographical maps at scale 1:25,000; 1:100,000 or 1:250,000;

(e) One seminar and study tour on map reproduction, one workshop on gravimetric applications for engineering and geodetic investigations, and two triennial United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Africa; and

(f) Technical cartographic services to meet specific needs of the secretariat for maps, charts, etc.

SUBPROGRAMME 24: ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

252. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 45/61, paras. 1 and 3; 46/174, para. 3; 43/101 paras. 2 and 3; Commission resolution 552 (XX), para. 4.

(b) Objectives

(i) Immediate objectives

253. To improve the socio-economic conditions of African women and enhance their contribution to development.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

254. In the framework of the System-wide Medium-Term Plan for Women and Development (1990-1995) and the Nairobi Strategies for the Advancement of Women in Africa beyond the United Nations Decade for Women, the overall objective is to assist member States towards increased improvement and participation of women in the socio-economic development of the region. Specifically the subprogramme will aim at promoting employment, productive resources and income for women, ensure participation of women in decision-making; and strengthen the data base and information networks for the formulation of policies and programmes for women.

(c) Problems addressed

255. While legal equality in the labour market is a pre-requisite for promoting employment for women, often they do not possess the required qualifications and training for jobs available. Those that are in the productive sectors, e.g. agriculture, their productivity is low as they have inadequate access to training, credit or technologies. In agro-industries employment of women is low especially in the key and technical positions because of inadequate/lack of training in science and technical fields.

Health conditions of rural women in particular are obstacles to effective participation of women as labour force.

256. The participation of women in decision-making levels is not commensurate to their numerical strength. Their visibility is low in relation to political decision, policy formulation, allocation of resources and in the design of development planning. Equality has not been attained in all these areas.

257. Against a background of emerging socio-economic trends in Africa, there is need to strengthen the data base on women to effect policy and programme formulation. Information networks need to be strengthened and adequate use made of public information system and other media for disseminating data on women.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

258. Consideration of gender issues in development planning inmember States will have been enhanced through utilization of guidelines produced by ECA. Some improvement in disseminating data on African women would have been initiated through the services of the data bank on women in development. Data gathered and workshops organized on the role of women in the informal sector would assist Governments to formulate policy and action programmes on the subject. The basic data on women and girls in Africa to scientific and technical education would be completed. A handbook on establishment of small business for women would be made available to member States. In summary consideration of gender issue at macro-level will have made some progress.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

259. Overall and sectoral analysis of emerging socio-economic trends and their impact on African women will be carried out through mobilization of information networks; member States co-operation in the sensitization of public information systems will be sought to disseminate the data. Promotion of employment opportunities of women in agro-industries will be continued with experimental projects in selected countries; in agriculture sector the improvement of women for control of productive and distribution services will be sought through training and access for credit techniques. Through management training, efforts will be made to assist women to attain decision-making levels in the formulation of agricultural and industrial policies. Monitoring reports will be published on the participation of women in decision-making in the public sector at national and regional levels.

SUBPROGRAMME 25: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

260. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is Economic and Social Council resolutions 1913 (LVII), paras. 4 and 5; 1961 (LIX); 1980/60, paras. 2, 3, 5, 7 and 9; General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex, para. 70; and ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 347 (XIV), paras. 1, 2 and 3.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

261. To eliminate or minimize the negative effects of the activities of TNCs; to promote the positive contribution of TNCs to the development efforts of African countries; to strengthen the capability of African countries in dealing with matters related to TNCs.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

262. To provide the substantive support for the implementation, monitoring and review of African arrangements and agreements related to TNCs; to assist African Governments by analyzing the activities of TNCs and their impact on African countries with particular reference to APPER, the UN-PAAERD and structural adjustment programmes; to organize seminars and other meetings in the African region aimed at disseminating the findings of research and analysis on TNCs activities; to assist African Governments on legal, financial, economic and operational issues related to specific arrangements such as joint ventures, licencing management contracts and other contractual arrangements with TNCs.

(c) Problems addressed

263. While many African countries have adopted codes of investment, liberal policies and strategies to attract foreign investment and technology, they still face mounting indebtedness and acute shortage of resource flows. The ability of African countries to maximize the contribution of TNCs to their development objectives is handicapped by lack of expertise in dealing with TNCs, given the range of the issues involved. Given the fact that the interests and objectives of TNCs not necessarily or automatically coincide with those of African countries, governments are enacting national policies and legislation in order to cover the maximum range of issues related to TNCs. The international community has on numerous occasions, called for urgent support for such national efforts through direct assistance in the form of advisory, training and information services.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

264. During the period 1990-1991, more research on TNCs will be carried out within the framework of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development. Advisory services and training on matters relating to TNCs will be undertaken in member States.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

265. The strategy during the period 1992-1997 will consist of the following:

(a) More advisory services to African countries to enhance their capability in dealing with TNCs;

(b) Intensive efforts to provide training services to member States; and

(c) Substantive support to intergovernmental bodies engaged in the development of national information system on TNCs.

SUBPROGRAMME 26: STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

266. This subprogramme is divided into two sections as follows:

Section 1: Statistical development

(a) Legislative authority

267. The legislative authority for this section is derived from the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa 1980-2000 (A/S-11/14, annex); General Assembly resolution S-13/2.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

268. To promote the preparation and implementation of statistical development plans by member States; to further promote the development and improvement of statistical infrastructure in member States; to support the provision of trained statisticians for the countries of the region; to further promote the programmes of continuing national household surveys, population censuses, environment statistics as well as civil registration systems and vital statistics collection; and to further promote the systematic compilation of national accounts as a framework for the integrated development and improvement of basic economic statistics.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

269. To assist African countries to establish and/or develop a durable infrastructure for the collection, processing and analysis of integrated demographic, social and economic data on household and household members; to integrate environment statistics into their routine data collection activities and to collect data on special population groups such as women, children, the disabled and the aged; to assist African countries to build up statistical data required to draw up meaningful economic and social development plans, to develop the necessary statistical capabilities to produce and use on a continuous basis statistical data in planning, monitoring and evaluating social and economic progress; and to promote the improvement of the quality, relevance, timeliness and inter-country comparability of the data being collected.

(c) Problems addressed

270. Africa is, with a total of 28 countries in 1989, the region with the largest number of countries classified as least developed. Statistical development in the region is still unsatisfactory despite some improvement over the last two decades. Few countries have well co-ordinated plans for statistical development and even fewer for national development plans which incorporate statistical development. There is a persistent lack of trained and experienced statisticians in many African countries. A number of

statistical personnel has been trained, but the statistical brain drain, especially at management level, has continued. In spite of the advent of more efficient hardware and software, the time lag between collection of data and publication of the results is still very long. The main reason for this is the lack of statisticians with modern data processing skills and of qualified data processing specialists as well as an insufficient level of co-ordination between such specialists and computer personnel.

271. Despite an improvement in demographic data collection, Africa still lags behind the other regions in the availability of detailed and timely data regarding fertility, mortality and migration especially with respect to the determinants and effects of trends in these fields. While 20 African countries have enrolled in the African Household Survey Capability Programme, it is only fully operational in 12 countries. Data pertaining to environmental problems are almost non-existent in the countries of the region. Although some environmental assessments have been carried out, most countries lack co-ordination between data users and producers as well as data collection mechanisms.

272. Many African countries do not as yet have basic statistics on agriculture, trade, industry, energy, transport, communications, and prices. National accounts have been compiled and processed for different periods of time for nearly all countries of the region, but the basic data for compiling the national accounts are limited, inadequate and in most cases very general fixed parameter models have to be used to evaluate quite different activities.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

273. The coverage, quality and timeliness of socio-economic and environment statistics in the region will have improved as compared to the early 1980s, but they will still not be sufficiently comprehensive and up-to-date to provide an adequate basis for decision-making, monitoring and evaluation. The use of statistical packages especially in the field of social sciences will have increased, though not very significantly.

274. Integrated survey programmes for the collection of basic data, in preference to ad hoc enquiries, will have been implemented in about 14 countries. Further progress will have been made in building up national capabilities for collecting and compiling primary as well as derived data. Emphasis will also continue to be given to the establishment of new and improvement of existing basic data series for incorporation into national accounts estimates.

275. For some countries, statistics on commodity products, energy and national accounts, will, however, still lag behind and essential price data for the evaluation of economic conditions, the measurement of production trends and the assessment of information will be far from complete.

276. The 15 statistical training centres participating in the Statistical Training Programme for Africa (STPA), of which 7 are English-speaking and 8 French-speaking, will have produced on average 700 trained personnel a year at the professional and middle levels. Some 20 trainers involved in middle-level/in-service training programmes will have been trained through workshops.

In spite of this, the demand for trained statistical personnel will not have been satisfied. Post-graduate training will need to be further strengthened and research activities at the centres improved.

277. Almost all African countries will have established decennial population census programmes and many will be actively developing or strengthening programmes of continuing household surveys as well as initiating experimental programmes for the improvement of their civil registration and vital statistics systems. Review of practices in demographic and socio-economic data collection, processing, analysis and application in African countries will have been carried out. A number of countries in the region will have embarked on collecting environment statistics as part of their regular statistical activities, but conceptual, institutional and technical capabilities will need to be developed much further in order to supply adequate environmental information to planners.

278. Training activities (on-the-job training, seminars, workshops and working groups) aimed at developing conceptual and methodological skills of national statistical staff will have been organized. In order to improve their performance these efforts will, however, need to be intensified.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

279. The strategy to be adopted for the next medium-term plan is as follows:

(a) Assistance will be provided to member States in the maintenance and strengthening of their institutional framework for the provision of data for integrated planning; areas covered will include demographic, social and economic data, particularly on households and household members, as well as environment statistics;

(b) A series of guidelines will be prepared, especially on the acquisition of computer facilities including micro-computers and their supporting software; on vertical and horizontal collaboration with respect to data processing among the different organizational units of the national statistical offices; on applications and analysis of data with particular relevance to the region; and on the use of statistical information for the monitoring of the implementation of national development plans;

(c) Statistical computing materials for on-the-job training and formal training of statisticians at statistical training centres will be provided;

(d) A series of seminars and training workshops will be conducted in order to examine conceptual and organizational requirements for improving national, subregional and regional programmes on socio-economic and environment statistics; to promote the exchange of experiences between the countries of the region in the field of statistics; and to develop further the professional competence of the participants. These workshops and seminars will focus on: statistical computing; population census, with particular reference to special population groups; civil registration systems and vital statistics collection; household surveys; environment statistics; international trade statistics; business surveys; basic economic statistics; and national accounts. A series of technical documents will be prepared on the above topics and will be further refined so as to provide member States with statistical methodologies suited to their needs.

Section 2: Statistical services

(a) Legislative authority

280. The legislative authority for this section is derived from the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa, 1980-2000 (A/S-11/14, annex); General Assembly resolution S-13/2 on the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990; and the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

281. To promote the scope, relevance, timeliness, reliability and cost-effectiveness of national and international economic, social, demographic and environment statistics in order to improve development planning, monitoring and evaluation; to encourage countries to enhance the coverage and content of population censuses, household surveys and civil registration systems; and to promote the further development of data bases comprising environment statistics, national accounts and other basic economic statistics.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

282. To enhance the capability of member States in the collection, presentation, analysis and dissemination of economic, social, demographic and environment statistics; to increase the level of self-reliance of countries by providing continuous support for developing national data processing capabilities, especially by enhancing the utilization of micro-computers; to expand the availability of and improve the ease of access to national, subregional and regional data bases; to provide users on a continuous basis internationally comparable economic, social, demographic and environmental data.

(c) Problems addressed

283. Despite significant achievements in statistical organization and production, the scope, quality and analysis of statistics in Africa hardly meet the most elementary requirements of planning and decision-making. The deficiencies in basic statistical series obtained from censuses and surveys are often due to problems of management and planning, bottlenecks at the data processing stage, and problems of analysis and dissemination of the data. As a consequence of frequent turnover of trained statistical personnel, many national statistical services do not have the necessary skilled staff to carry out censuses and surveys, to undertake the timely processing and analysis of the data, to collect and analyze data on environmental conditions and to prepare national accounts estimates. A considerable number of national publications in the field of statistics appear only after much delay with the result that they are only of historical interest. These deficiencies may translate into enormous costs if factors behind socio-economic and environmental crises remain unknown and thus unattended.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

284. An assessment of the status of the availability of basic economic, social, demographic and environment statistics in the region will have been completed, recommendations made and programmes for filling data gaps will be underway in a number of countries.

285. The regional statistical data base will have been computerized and further developed. It will have been expanded to contain data on environment statistics, with particular emphasis on drought and desertification and on natural resources. However, the full development of this data base which has in the past been hampered by the financial crisis of the United Nations will depend on
available resources and on the quantity and quality of data originating from national and subregional supporting centres. It is their growth which will therefore largely determine the scope and adequacy of the data base at the regional level.

286. Countries will have acquired more micro-computers resulting in faster processing time, bigger storage capacity and lower costs. There will be an increased need to assist them in establishing national computer-based systems of integrated economic, social, demographic and environment statistics.

287. Studies will have been undertaken and recommendations made on national statistical data processing capability, statistical data base development and the use of software packages in statistical computing. However, these recommendations will not have been fully implemented. A number of statistical publications on economic, social and demographic data collection, processing, analysis and application in African countries will have been prepared and disseminated. These technical publications are intended to assist national governments in consolidating past achievements and thus ensure the durability of the data collection mechanisms which have been or are being established.

(ii) The period 1993-1997

288. The strategy to be adopted for the medium-term plan is as follows:

(a) Advisory services will be provided to countries on the formulation of statistical plans, including production schedules, training programmes and detailed data processing requirements; on the establishment of used committees for optimizing the use of central data processing facilities; and on the development and maintenance of integrated computer-based systems of economic, social, demographic and environment statistics;

(b) Advisory services will also be provided on request to member States in the fields of population censuses, civil registration, household surveys, environment statistics, national accounts, trade statistics and industrial statistics. They will concentrate on building up self-reliance on the part of national staff in the field of statistics and will therefore emphasize on-the-job training;

(c) The existing regional statistical data base will be expanded with a view to disseminating to users comprehensive and up-to-date statistical

information including well-documented data from other international data banks and from national sources.

(d) Methodological studies will be carried out in specific areas of economic, social, demographic and environment statistics. These studies will have two main objectives: to identify and analyze the shortcomings of the basic statistics at the national level on the one hand and, on the other, to serve as technical guidelines for member States to assist them in their efforts to improve the quality and timeliness of data being collected.

SUBPROGRAMME 21: TRANSPORT [illegible]

(a) Legislative authority

289. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 32/64 of 6 December [illegible] and A/32/19, and Commission resolution 639 (XXIII).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

290. Efforts of the governments of member States will focus on fostering policy development, resource mobilization and capacity-building required to attain the following objectives:

(a) An integrated approach to the planning of the transport sector, through multimodal planning and regional, subregional and international co-ordination of [illegible];

(b) Increased efficiency in transport services, including policies ensuring appropriate pricing of transport modes, modernization and optimum utilization of the transport infrastructures as well as manpower development and training;

(c) Facilitation of inter-country traffic, with special reference to improving the classification and standardization of traffic processes and adoption and adherence to international conventions concerning traffic flows;

(d) Co-ordinated transport systems designed to open up land-locked countries and other isolated regions; and

(e) Established channels for transport technology transfer and development required for maintenance, modernization, expansion and utilization of the networks.

(iii) Objectives of the activity

291. The main objective of the secretariat is to assist member States in their efforts to bring about practical co-operation on multinational basis in the field of transport, particularly in inter-country traffic facilitation, infrastructural development and maintenance, and in creating proper human resource management systems. The secretariat intends also to play its role as a lead agency in co-ordination and monitoring the implementation of the second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa 1991-2000.

(iv) Problems addressed

292. The lack of integrated planning in Africa has given rise to complications in many areas, leading to insufficient investment in transport, lack of co-ordination among different modes of transport, managerial deficiencies, ineffective use of available equipment; low operating efficiency; low level of productivity; slow pace of technological development; and inadequate institutional development.

293. Many countries of the region have not been able to adopt or implement rational transport development policies. They usually have difficulties in the continuous flow of inter-country traffic, even on the networks already available. Furthermore, only few of these transport networks are well managed while the majority of them suffer from poor maintenance and repair, and the services are generally poor. The infrastructure of the African networks is not only inadequate but mostly also substandard. Inter-country transport flows are handicapped also by uncoordinated institutions, rules, regulations, procedures and practices. The tendency of African countries to intensify traditional traffic flows with regions outside the continent is detrimental and prejudicial to the development of new inter-country links within Africa. There is dire need for more skilled personnel and related training facilities.

(v) Strategy for the period 1990-1991

(vi) The situation at the end of 1991

294. In spite of the attempts made during the 1984-1991 period to develop the multimodal aspects of transport, mostly containerization, no significant success was registered. Efforts were not effective also with regard to institution building in general, hence the lack of the member States' inability or unwillingness to provide the type of practical support required to sustain intergovernmental organizations already established. Unsatisfactory results were also apparent in the field of manpower development mainly due to the absence or inadequacy of proper human resource management systems.

295. It is expected that by 1991 the secretariat will have completed studies on harmonization and co-ordination of various modes of transport, guidelines for design of transport manpower policies and programmes based on a survey report on manpower and training needs in Africa, existing plans and projects designed to foster the development of an industrial component of the transport sector in Africa; evaluation and harmonization of international transport practices and regulations and guidelines for facilitation of traffic and promotion of multinational co-operation in certain areas of transport

operations. The preparatory activities for UNTACDA II will be in their final stages making the full-fledged launching of the second Decade programme possible.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

296. The strategy during this period will be to follow up on the studies and activities initiated during the 1984-1991 Medium-Term Plan, namely facilitation of international traffic; manpower development; and promotion of an African industry in transport. Accordingly, efforts towards practical intra-African co-operation will be intensified, in terms of involving the countries in concrete projects, activities and operational mechanisms related to facilitation of traffic maintenance and development of transport infrastructures with special emphasis on inter-State links and transit corridors; installation of human resource management systems in all transport institutions; development of joint operations of transport services where practicable; and development of the manufacture of transport equipment in Africa. The activities on institution building will be reoriented from establishment of new institutions to strengthening and rationalization of the existing ones.

297. The strategy will include also meetings, reports and technical co-operation activities. Consultations with other relevant regional and international organizations will be pursued with increased vigour, on matters of common concern, with a view to co-operation and co-ordination. It is expected that the member States themselves also will be in a position to play their full role in terms of undertaking activities consistent with their objectives and providing the information required for realization of the secretariat's objectives.

SUBPROGRAMME 20: COMMUNICATIONS IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

298. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is Commission resolutions 610 (XXII), annex, 668 (XXI) and 839 (XXIII) and General Assembly resolutions 35/54 on A/S-11/14 and 43/179.

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objective

299. The global objective is to develop high-quality and efficient communication networks, which would enable all inhabitants of African countries, irrespective of their locations be it urban or rural, to communicate with one another without having to transit through countries outside of Africa. Of primary concern is the need to sustain, complete and improve the utilization of the existing national and Pan-African Telecommunications (PANAFTEL) networks while at the same time achieving major expansion of basic telecommunication, broadcasting and postal services which efficiently incorporate new technical developments.

(b) Objectives of the secretariat

300. The objectives of the secretariat are to provide assistance to member States in efficiently managing and sustaining the existing communication infrastructures, completing the missing links of the Pan-African Telecommunications (PANAFTEL) and national networks and incorporating new technical developments efficiently, promotion of restructuring of organizations and policy development; promotion of basic research and development of communications industry in Africa; improvement of mail routeing and distribution; expansion of express mail services (EMS) and electronic mail services, transit centres and modernization of the financial services of the postal system; creation of awareness to the social benefits of communications services; and the promotion of TCDC/ECDC in addition to traditional co-operation arrangements for the development of communications in Africa.

(c) Problems addressed

301. Telecommunications: The central problem is how to efficiently manage, sustain and expand the existing telecommunication infrastructure and incorporate new technical developments. Despite the immense progress that has been achieved over the years, African telecommunication providers are still facing some fundamental problems, namely organizational and policy constraints which limit the organizations' capacity to provide and efficiently manage basic telecommunication facilities and services; inadequacy of interconnectivity via the PANAFTEL network; lack of planning; underutilization of the existing networks; lack of agreements on traffic routing and regional tariffs; inadequate marketing and promotional endeavours for efficient utilization of existing facilities; lack of human resources for telecommunications; improper maintenance and operation of the existing networks; existence of some missing links in the network; and lack of manufacturing industries for communication equipment in Africa.

302. Broadcasting (radio and television): The means of originating, delivering and receiving broadcast information are not only inadequate but also unevenly distributed in Africa south of the Sahara. The signal coverage is by and large still severely limited to the urban and peri-urban areas, and reception in rural areas is severely affected on the one hand by lack of electricity and batteries and on the other hand by the high costs of radio and television receivers as well as the absence of community listening and viewing centres.

303. Postal services: Generally African postal services lack efficient organization and management systems. The present postal services in the region are inadequate, inefficient and slow. Despite efforts made by certain countries only relatively limited progress has been recorded over the last decade in the entire postal services. The African postal services remain very poor by world standards.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

304. At the end of 1991, African countries would have completed the backbone routes of the PANAFTEL network. At the national level, the networks would have been expanded, introducing some of the latest technologies. Direct

Distance Dialling (DDD), International Subscriber Dialling (ISD) and automatic telex services would be available in almost all African countries. The interconnectivity of PANAFTEL and national networks with international networks would have increased. However, services to the rural areas would still be limited, even though some efforts would have been made in this direction. The feasibility study for the Regional African Satellite Communication System (RASCOM) would have been completed and, assuming that a positive decision will be taken by the ECA Conference of Ministers, the preparatory activities for launching the regional communications satellite into orbit would be in progress.

305. As regards broadcasting (radio and television), these services would still be limited to the main urban and peri-urban areas. Thus the majority of the rural population would still have no broadcast signal or only an inadequate one.

306. Postal coverage in African countries would continue to be inadequate, particularly in rural areas. Although the urban service would be somewhat satisfactory, the level would be far below the target set by the last United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, which is one post office per 6,000 inhabitants. The shortage of postal buildings (especially sorting centres) and the lack of trained middle and senior management staff in all the countries would still exist.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

307. The secretariat will provide assistance to telecommunication and broadcasting organizations of its member States in restructuring of organizations, policy development and adoption of improved management with the view to increasing the utilization of the existing communication facilities and improvement of services, and in the development and management of human resources for this sector. The secretariat will also undertake studies and research on cost-effective means of extending telecommunication and broadcasting services to the rural areas. These activities will continue throughout the medium-term plan.

308. The secretariat will, in collaboration with relevant United Nations specialized agencies and African organizations, and in close co-operation with other international partners continue to assist member States in establishing RASCOM and to prepare a detailed report on long- and short-term plans for establishing basic communications research and development centres, as well as suitable manufacturing industries at regional, subregional, or national levels.

309. The secretariat, in collaboration with the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and relevant African intergovernmental organizations, will concentrate on policy development and management with the view of enhancing the efficiency of postal administrations and services. The secretariat will also assist in improving mail sorting and transit centres existing in Africa, and to solve routeing problems resulting from the lack of co-ordination between maritime and air transport companies and postal administrations. It will also undertake studies on the development of post office savings banks, and assist in extending postal services to the rural areas.

SUBPROGRAMME 29: TOURISM IN AFRICA

(a) Legislative authority

310. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is Commission resolutions 567 (XXI) and 640 (XXII).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

311. The intergovernmental objectives of this subprogramme are to promote the rational exploitation of tourism resources and potential; to promote co-operation and harmonious integration of policies and programmes related to tourism and development; and to strengthen intra-African co-operation in tourism, through the establishment of inter-State circuits, joint promotion of tourism and multinational vocational training systems.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

312. The objectives of the secretariat relate to the following areas:

(a) Assistance to member States in the formulation of national and subregional policies and programmes for tourism development, including the development of technical manpower for the tourism industry;

(b) Promotion of the exchange of information on tourism trends and development; and

(c) Promotion of regional and subregional integration by carrying out programmes for the harmonization and standardization of hotel management methods, programmes for training in planning and analysis, the establishment of efficient vocational training systems as well as machineries for consultation among tourism professionals in Africa and assistance to member States in the establishment of inter-State circuits and machineries for their effective use.

(c) Problems addressed

313. The tourism industry in Africa is confronted with operational and management problems. This is aggravated by inadequate tourism infrastructure and services in some countries, and by a lack of qualified personnel and training institutions in the region. The exogenous nature of African tourism should also be corrected by developing intra-African tourism and building up managerial expertise. The management of the tourism product should similarly be carried out by qualified personnel from the region, so as to curb the massive outflow of the resources needed for overall development and to have better control over the development of tourism in Africa.

314. As far as vocational training is concerned, Africa already has some 30 training centres. However, there is a lack of facilities at almost all levels of management training. In addition to this, training programmes should be harmonized in order to ensure better integration of training and the exchange of qualified staff.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

315. Successes achieved have been in the area of strengthening intra-African co-operation in tourism and the establishment within certain subregional economic development organizations of "tourism programmes", and even administrative structures for co-operation in tourism.

316. Information gathered by the World Tourism Organization have established that tourism is expanding constantly and that by the year 2000 the service sectors will become the primary activity in the world, with tourism being the number one sector. This trend has been confirmed in Africa, where growth in the sector has continued in spite of the crises which the continent has been experiencing for the past 10 years. During the period 1983-1988, the number of international tourism arrivals rose from 8.1 million to 12 million increasing revenue from $US 2.6 billion to $US 4.1 billion. During the same period, the number of rooms increased, rising from 265,000 to 300,000 between 1983 and 1987. With the deregulation of air traffic and the regulations on the uniformity of European air space, this trend should intensify, considering that an increasing number of African countries are devoting substantial resources to the development of tourism.

317. Besides, the subregional intergovernmental organizations for development and integration have been increasingly developing "tourism" programmes.

318. It is expected that the activities developed during the 1984-1991 period would make it possible to establish intra-African co-operation mechanisms for tourism development at the regional and subregional levels, that member States will have adopted guidelines regarding manpower development and the creation and/or rationalization of training establishments, the establishment of national machineries for tourism development, the development of inter-State tourism circuits and the upgrading of hotel management systems.

319. The overall framework by 1991 will be favourable to a substantial improvement of the situation, particularly with respect to the priority areas indicated above under the general orientation of the subprogramme.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

320. The secretariat will continue to assist member States to meet their objectives through advisory services, organization of workshops and seminars on tourism, the continuous survey and assessment of tourist potential, identification of training needs and collection and dissemination of tourism information so that by the end of 1997, most African countries would have acquired the necessary expertise in the field of tourism.

321. A project entitled "Training" is being negotiated with donors. This project is aimed at the establishment of systems and facilities for hotel management training during the 1992-1997 period.

322. To back up these efforts, increasing attention should be paid to improving facilitation during travel and stay in Africa. This cannot be done without strengthening intra-African co-operation in terms of exchanges.

SUBPROGRAMME 30: MANAGEMENT OF TECHNICAL CORPORATION ACTIVITIES

(a) Legislative authority

323. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 32/197, sections IV and VIII, 33/202, paras. 3 and 4, and 34/206, paras. 1 and 2; ECOSOC resolution 1982/63, paras. 2, 3 and 4, and ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 283 (XIII).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

324. The intergovernmental objectives of this subprogramme are to:

(a) Assist in the fulfilment of member States development objectives in terms of rapid self-reliance and sustainable development and economic growth through the promotion of mature partnership with technical and development assistance institutions and other donors for the formulation, support and implementation of technical and development assistance projects;

(b) Monitor and evaluate technical co-operation activities in furtherance of the development objectives of member States and the promotion of their economic co-operation and integration;

(c) Ensure proper administrative and financial management of project resources;

(d) Ensure timely implementation of projects and other technical co-operation activities and prepare relevant reports for beneficiary countries and funding sources.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

325. The objectives of the secretariat are to:

(a) Provide technical assistance towards the co-ordinated and integrated development of member States by undertaking technical assistance operations involving the conceptualization, preparation and active extrabudgetary resources mobilization for the implementation of intersectoral subregional and regional projects;

(b) Assume overall co-ordination, implementation and management of technical co-operation activities in order to rationalize development activities at the regional, subregional and national levels and optimize the use of available resources to ensure their fullest possible benefits for member States, and to conduct impact assessments of such activities in their future planning and programming;

(c) Prepare reports on ECA as an executing agency for technical co-operation activities to various ECA conferences of African ministers, and contributions to relevant reports of the United Nations Secretary-General, UNDP, ITCD, JIU, and the Executive Secretary; and

(d) Co-ordinate and control the management of projects resources and maintain appropriate data on projects executed by ECA.

(c) Problems addressed

326. It is the desire of the secretariat to make all possible efforts, notwithstanding its limited regular budget allocations, to increase opportunies for assisting its member States towards a re-ordered and re-invigorated economic process and accelerated economic integration. The gap between regular budget resources and the role expected to be played by the secretariat towards the solution of the broad dimensional socio-economic problems of its member States has and may never be bridged and may become more widened in the face of limited or zero growth trends of the budget.

327. On the other hand, the catalytic role of the secretariat of which operational activities are a necessary and vital part, remains critical and cannot depend solely on the stringent regular budgetary resources. The active mobilization of extrabudgetary resources is therefore expected to assist in providing the balance that the secretariat needs to facilitate its ability to play its role effectively.

328. To increase the effectiveness of technical co-operation activities in meeting the needs of member States, individually and collectively and without a mechanism for the systematic monitoring and evaluation of technical co-operation activities and resources, there is bound to be a wasteful duplication of efforts and resources which would result in less and less extrabudgetary resources, and in the wake of the regular budgetary stringencies, this would mean an eroded capacity and opportunity of ECA and for that matter of its member States in fulfilling development objectives.

329. The implementation and execution of over one 100 projects requires an efficient mechanism for expenditures control and accurate data on project delivery as well as relevant reports to member States and financial institutions that would increase the effectiveness in the execution of technical co-operation activities.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

330. Extrabudgetary resources at the level of about 35 per cent of regular budgetary resources would have been mobilized for the implementation of technical co-operation activities. Those activities started and implemented in the middle of the 1980s would have started to show some impact on member States.

331. Co-ordination and management of over 100 technical co-operation projects financed through extrabudgetary resources.

332. ECA as an executing agency would ensure that project activities are executed as programmed. In particular high control would be exercised to ensure that project funds are spent according to financial rules.

333. In addition, member States and donor institutions would be provided with accurate reports on activities implemented under technical co-operation projects.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

334. The following will be the strategy for the plan period:

(a) Increase or at least maintain the same level of extrabudgetary resources by sustaining contacts with traditional financing agencies and governments and exploring opportunities from other potential donors through fund-raising missions;

(b) Strengthen ECA capabilities for project identification and formulation in order to improve the quality of ECA project documents and attract the interest of funding sources;

(c) Strengthen ECA capabilities for the monitoring and evaluation of technical co-operation activities embodied in projects whose number is estimated to be more than 100;

(d) Increase the involvement, commitment and participation of member States in the implementation of technical co-operation projects through the assessment and appraisal of project institutional frameworks;

(e) Strengthen the mechanism for project financial management with emphasis on control of expenditures;

(f) Provide sound funding sources and member States on technical activities executed by ECA as an executing agency.

(e) Continuous functions

335. The following are functions of a continuing nature:

(a) Analysis of member States development assistance programmes to ensure appropriate linkages and complimentarities between national and regional projects;

(b) Preparation of technical co-operation projects in consultation with substantive divisions;

(c) Negotiations with traditional and prospective funding agencies, institutions and donor governments for the mobilization of financial resources for technical co-operation projects and preparation of relevant basic and specific agreements related to such projects;

(d) Preparation of necessary documentation for, organization and substantive servicing of conferences of the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;

(e) Regular and mandatory monitoring, reviews and evaluation of technical co-operation projects and regional advisory activities;

(f) Preparation of reports on the status of projects to member States, funding agencies, institutions and donor governments;

(g) Preparation of the regional project management plan;

(h) Participate in project tripartite reviews as well as evaluation meetings;

(i) Clear the appropriateness of project expenditures;

(j) Prepare programme for the utilization of programme support cost (overheads);

(k) Ensure accuracy of financial statements of extrabudgetary resources;

(l) Prepare ECA's contributions to technical co-operation reports of the Secretary-General, the Executive Secretary, the UNDP Administrator, UNFPA, DTCD, JIU, etc.; and

(m) Review and make recommendation on contractual status and conditions of work of bilateral experts and regional advisors.

SUBPROGRAMME 31: PLANNING, PROGRAMMING, BUDGETING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

(a) Legislative authority

336. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is General Assembly resolutions 3042 (XXVII), 31/93 para. 5, 32/197 para. 3 and annex, 33/202, section IV, para. 8, section V, paras. 3 and 4 and section VI, para. 1, 34/229, para. 2, 35/64, A/S-11/14 annexes I and II, 36/228 (section 8) 37/234, paras. 1, 3 and 6 and annex 38/277A, 38/227 section II, para. 1 and section III, para. 2, 40/40, para. 9, A/40/6/6, S-13/2 annex, 41/213 section II, para. 2 and 43/219 sections I, II and III; and Commission resolutions 508 (XIX) para. 6 and 676 (XXIV).

(b) Objectives

(i) Intergovernmental objectives

337. The intergovernmental objectives of this subprogramme are to:

(a) Formulate, adopt, co-ordinate and monitor basic policies and strategies for the African region in the light of changes in general socio-economic trends within and outside the region;

(b) Formulate ECA's medium-term plans and the programme aspects of the budget;

(c) Rationalize ECA's activities through the establishment of orders of priorities within subprogrammes which should serve as basis for programme budgeting;

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(d) Promote the efficiency of the secretariat in the implementation of its programme of work and priorities and the strengthening of its effectiveness through monitoring and evaluation with a view to ensuring that the Commission's activities respond to the needs of member States.

(ii) Objectives of the secretariat

338. The secretariat objectives are:

(a) Preparation of guidelines, proposals and recommendations on basic development policies and strategies for adoption by member States, co-ordination and harmonization of activities within the secretariat and with those of other agencies particularly in relation to the implementation of these basic policies and strategies and in the context of the role of the Commission as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the African region;

(b) Providing leadership and co-ordination within the secretariat in the preparation of and revision to medium-term plans, the programme and budget aspects of the biennial programme budgets for consideration by the ECA Conference of Ministers and the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board (PPBB), tne CPC, ECOSOC and the General Assembly;

(c) Promoting the efficiency of the secretariat in the implementation of its programme of work and priorities, and the strengthening of its effectiveness by ensuring the full implementation of the regulations and rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation as well as the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination; and

(d) Administration of the budget within the budget allotments (including manning tables) issued by the Office of Financial Services at Headquarters and resources from extrabudgetary resources within the requirements of the Financial Rules and Regulations and authority delegated by the Controller.

(c) Problems addressed

339. Given the growing complexity of the economic and social development of Africa, there is need to monitor and analyze, on a continuous basis, changes in policy trends within and outside the region as well as decisions taken in international fora with a view to interpreting and translating such policies and strategies into operational terms for member States, the secretariat and international organizations. Within the secretariat itself, continuous co-ordination and guidance is necessary and essential in ensuring that the formulation and implementation of both substantive and operational activities by the various substantive divisions are done within the framework of the established policy and strategy orientations and the strict application of the financial rules and regulations.

340. Monitoring the implementation of programmed activities, and evaluation, understood as the objective and systematic oversight of and determination of the relevance, effectiveness and impact of activities in the light of goals and objectives, undertaken with a view to improving their implementation, planning and programming, have only just begun to have an impact on programme

formulation and execution. There is therefore need to intensify efforts in these areas to ensure the continued effective use of resources.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) The situation at the end of 1991

341. By the end of 1991 the various initiatives taken in recent years to relaunch long-term growth and development in Africa would have begun to bear fruit. African countries would then be in a position to pursue in earnest the objectives of restructuring and diversifying their economies within the framework of the ultimate objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. The demands on the Commission's competence and resources by member States to assist them to tackle the problems associated with such restructuring and diversification processes would have become even greater. The role of policy analysis, programme planning, budgeting and co-ordination as well as monitoring and evaluation will become even more central if the Commission is to render such assistance effectively.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

342. The strategy for the period will be as follows:

(a) Continuing analysis of the operational implications of regionally agreed policies and strategies, as well as the legislative decisions of the General Assembly, ECOSOC, the CPC, ECA policy organs, legislative bodies of the United Nations specialized agencies, other United Nations agencies and of the Organization of African Unity, with a view to making recommendations for practical action by the secretariat and the legislative bodies of the Commission.

(b) Continuing surveillance and co-ordination of policy issues through contacts with secretariat research analysis and operational activity staff and participation in inter-agency and inter-divisional joint planning and programme harmonization work as well as the organization of in-house seminars and workshops with a view to ensuring that such issues are well integrated into planning, programming and evaluation work and to providing feedback for implementation;

(c) Co-ordination of the substantive servicing of the annual meetings of the ECA Conference of Ministers and of its Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole;

(d) Continuous interpretation to programme managers and staff of the regulations and rules governing programme planning, the programme aspects of the budget, the monitoring of implementation and the methods of evaluation and instructions for the preparation of the programme budgets and the revisions to the Medium-term Plan and co-ordination of the preparation of the related documents required by the various legislative organs;

(e) Self-evaluation studies as well as in-depth evaluation of subprogrammes will be undertaken in accordance with established timetables. Measures will also be taken to ensure that monitoring and evaluation findings are promptly and systematically utilized in management and decision-making processes, particularly in the preparation of the first and second revisions

to the Medium-term Plan and the preparation of biennial programme budgets. In addition, follow-up activities and studies on monitoring and evaluation findings and recommendations will be carried out. Ad hoc evaluation studies will also be conducted as requested by the General Assembly and/or the ECA Conference of Ministers; and

(f) Measures will be taken to improve the co-ordination of regular and extrabudgetary resources in the implementation of work programmes, ensure that expenditures are incurred for the purposes for which they are budgeted and within the limits of the appropriation and improve the application of budgetary techniques for realistic estimates of income and expenditures.

SUBPROGRAMME 32: CONFERENCE SERVICES

(a) Legislative authority

343. The functions of this subprogramme are described in ST/SGB/Organization, Section K (iv) Rev.1 and in the Commission's rules of procedure 31, 34 and 35.

(b) Objectives

344. The objectives of the subprogramme are to:

(a) Plan and co-ordinate conference activities including seminars and workshops of the Commission held at or away from its headquarters;

(b) Ensure the preparation and execution of the annual programme of meetings, and the preparation of draft host country agreements for meetings held away from its headquarters;

(c) Translate and revise documents, official reports and records, publications, official and internal correspondence;

(d) Co-ordinate and supervise contractual and freelance translation;

(e) Maintain a modest library of general reference works and publications relevant to the work of the Commission, for use by the translation services;

(f) Provide internal printing of offset and mimeograph documents for conferences and meetings and of technical publications; and

(g) Prepare cost estimates for external printing, to provide typing and proofreading services and to distribute documents and publications internally and externally.

(c) Problems addressed

345. Over the years, the number of items on the agendas of the meetings of the legislative organs and sectoral ministerial bodies of the Commission has been increasing, resulting in an increase in the workload of the translation and reproduction services. One of the problems facing the secretariat is the timely and efficient provision of meeting services. Difficulties are encountered in maintaining and updating the mailing lists. Since the adoption

of General Assembly resolution 32/197 on restructuring and decentralization of activities, the substantive work of the Commission has increased tremendously, leading to an increase in servicing activities whereas resources allocated to such activities have not increased. In this connection, inadequacy of staffing at all levels and the obsolescence of equipment are two major problems with which the Secretariat is confronted. In addition conference facilities are inadequate and quality of maintenance has suffered because of budgetary constraints.

346. In the translation services, staff shortages which are acute in all three language units, have affected Arabic services in particular. The Arabic unit has traditionally been short of staff capable of translating out of French, and the other units are short of staff who can translate out of Arabic. This causes bottlenecks in translation.

347. Additional problems are caused by the late submission of documents and the absence of reliable workload forecasts. The informal documents control arrangements now in effect fall far short of what is needed to ensure a reasonably even and predictable flow of work to the translation services. The resultant gluts cause delays in reference, translation, typing, proofreading, printing and distribution after leaving delegations too little time to prepare thoroughly for important meetings, and this compromises all the effort put into organizing the meetings.

348. The lack of editorial services at ECA presents special problems in ensuring production of high-quality documents.

349. The reference unit is acutely short of space. All its material is stored in hard copy, and the only available means of indexing the documents it holds is by file card. It has no direct link to either the documents distribution service (to obtain copies of current documents) or the main library (for other material). With current methods, cross-referencing the material it receives from around the world is particularly difficult. Because of this, some of the specialized information available in less commonly consulted documents is overlooked, and quality suffers as a result.

350. During the last five years the volume of work in the documents and publishing Service has more than doubled; at the same time, the number of staff assigned to it has been reduced. Most of the equipment on hand is obsolete and some has gone out of service without replacement. Spare parts are not available on the local market, and this meant that the machines can not be readily repaired.

351. The area currently used as the print shop is in the basement and is cramped, poorly laid out, inconvenient, damp and humid; there is little storage space for paper supplies or used plates which may need re-rolling. Several serviceable items of equipment have had to be taken out of service for lack of space to operate them safely.

352. There is an unwarranted demand for offset documents and print runs which bear little relation to actual needs. The costs in underused facilities, in supplies and in storage for superfluous copies are substantial. Some supplies for offset printing, being difficult if not impossible to obtain locally, have to be imported, and this both increases costs and causes delays in the production of important documents. In the absence of an editorial

service, the typists and proofreaders have to exercise quasi-editorial functions, standardizing format, layout and language usage where possible.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) Situation at the end of 1991

353. Efforts undertaken in 1989 with a view to ensuring co-ordination and proper planning of conferences, meetings and seminars through the Ad hoc Committee on conferences, meetings, seminars and workshops composed of PPCO, the Office of the Secretary to the Commission, TACCO (Technical Assistance Co-ordination and Operations Office) and Conference Services has started yielding results. Restraint has been put on programme managers to limit the number of meetings being programmed. The first steps to modernize the equipment in the typing and reproduction units have been taken. The English and Arabic units in the translation services operate with reduced staff, and all three language units (Arabic, English, French) lack proper editing and revision services.

354. Efforts were made to recruit three successful trainees from the French translators programme in replacement of those who were transferred to New York in 1987. The French translation unit could therefore operate with six staff. Similarly the Arabic translation unit was improved in its manning capacity with two staff instead of one as was the case during 1986 and 1987.

355. The introduction of micro-computers for the three working languages of the Commission in the typing unit had to some extent reduced the delays involved in the transcription of translators' cassettes.

356. The documents and publishing service faced a severe backlog of printing, particularly concerning offset. Priority setting was very difficult as submitting offices pressed conflicting claims for the swift reproduction of their documents. Three small offset presses remained idle more than a year after delivery for want of vital supplies. The service did not have enough trained staff to operate all its offset equipment at optimum efficiency. All collation was still being done manually for want of space to operate the large collating machine. Some equipment has been ordered to upgrade the print shop. The introduction of "smart" English and French typewriters was helping to reduce the time spent in fair-copying edited and revised documents, but must be regarded only as a stop-gap, pending the introduction of integrated word-processing.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

357. In 1992 and beyond, the co-ordinating role of the Ad hoc Committee on the list of conferences, meetings, seminars and workshops will be strengthened, bearing in mind the reaffirmation made by the General Assembly in its resolution 39/68 of 13 December 1984 that "in drawing up future calendars of conferences the documents-processing capacity of the secretariat and the reporting schedules of subsidiary organs of the (Commission) should be taken into account". It is planned to complete conversion of the typing unit into a word-processing unit. The reproduction unit will need to be provided with modern equipment. The move to computerized information on documents production and distribution will be pursued. More efficient documentation production and translation services will be sought through the

establishment of proper documents control and reference units. The intention is to use word processors to provide terminology service to language staff and to regularly up-date glossaries and terminology bulletins. The translation services will need to be strengthened by recruitment of editors and revisers in addition to filling vacant posts by way of providing incentives to make Addis Ababa a more attractive duty station for staff than it currently is. The projected expansion of existing conference facilities will improve working conditions and output.

358. Opportunity will continue to be given to the senior recruits from the African translator training programme to be sent for training in self-revision and revision to the larger duty stations, and self-revision will progressively be introduced to lower the reviser/translator ratio to a level more in keeping with other parts of the secretariat.

359. Translation staff will be offered opportunities to study languages they cannot at present handle, so as to improve the language combinations and permutations available for use in ECA. In some cases, this may imply study outside Addis Ababa.

360. Formally constituting a documents control unit (preferably to work in conjunction with an established editorial service) will open the way to more rigorous control over the size, quality and punctuality of papers submitted for translation. More rigorous documents control coupled with integrated planning of all conference services should help to optimize the flow of work to the translation service and thus minimize the need for temporary assistance and overtime in translation, typing and reproduction.

361. The introduction of a sophisticated word-processing system (compatible with those already in use in New York and elsewhere in the Secretariat) in the typing unit will bring considerable benefits. The efficiency of the unit will of course be enhanced; since it will then be sensible to centralize final typing in the unit (most final typing is today done in the divisions) and it will be easier to apply uniform editorial and presentation standards. Use of a word-processing system will also automatically build an archive, partly indexed by subject-matter and source of material created at or processed in ECA; provision of an accessory module in the reference unit will permit ready access to all such material without the need to store additional hard copy in the unit itself, and this should make for faster and more thorough referencing. The use of terminology glossaries developed for the word-processing systems in New York and Geneva should also reduce the amount of time translators and reference personnel spend verifying established titles and terms, allowing more time for actual translation.

362. Eventually it is hoped that exchanges of word-processing system archives with other duty stations, either by regular pouching of diskettes or by transmission over the proposed satellite link, will give the reference unit - indeed ECA as a whole - access to a much broader range of reference material in readily usable form, while saving substantially on the present-day costs of pouching and storing hard copy.

363. It is hoped that during the plan period construction of the new conference facilities will be completed to allow relocation of the staff of the print shop. At present ECA relies on external contracting for maintenance of its print shop equipment which, with the seriously declining standards of

expertise in the duty station, has become very unsatisfactory. It is therefore planned to develop an in-house maintenance capability.

364. Efforts will also be made to arrange reliable supplies of essential materials at competitive prices; in many cases this will mean procurement outside Ethiopia.

365. Procedures will be introduced, in conjunction with Documents control and the distribution unit, to keep print runs in line with expected demand for each document, and to ensure that printing requests are justified by the programme budget in force. Better liaison with documents control and the typing unit will permit conference services as a whole to balance the quantities of work submitted for mimeo and offset reproduction so as to minimize idle time and printing backlogs.

366. As the print shop is modernized, facilities for the staff working there will also be improved. Current plans (subject to review) include the provision of a proper cloakroom with lockers and shower; better lighting and ventilation; better sound insulation; and easier access. As already indicated it is expected that these enhanced facilities will be available in the new conference facilities.

367. The gradual automation and, eventually, computerization of type-setting and layout is also planned: the equipment selected will as far as possible be compatible with the word-processing system being introduced in the new automation scheme.

368. Final typing will be centralized in the documents typing unit so that established documentary standards can be uniformly applied.

369. The mailing lists will be progressively updated and the actual demand for each ECA publication will be reviewed. All labelling will be computerized; the feasibility of combining the labelling operation with automatic weighing and franking, to relieve the pressure on the pouch unit will be investigated.

370. The updated mailing lists will be used in collaboration with documents control and the reproduction unit to control the size of print runs for documents of all kinds so as to minimize under- and over-production and the associated costs.

371. Pending relocation to the new conference facilities, the documents storage and distribution areas will be reorganized to make better use of the space available; the index and retrieval systems will be cross-referenced with the index on the word-processing system in the typing unit and, where applicable, the used plates and stencils will be stored in the print shop so that documents running short can be re-ordered with minimum delay and inconvenience.

(iii) Time-limited objectives

372. These will include the following:

(a) Filling of all vacancies in the translation services by the end of 1992;

(b) Formal constitution of a documents control unit, with the necessary staff and support facilities, by the end of 1992;

(c) Installation of an approved word-processing system in the typing unit, with auxiliary terminals in the reference unit and documents control, by the end of 1992;

(d) Establishment of an editorial service, with the necessary staff and support facilities, by the end of 1993;

(e) Combined introduction of self-revision and expansion of all three language units to bring available capacity (translation and revision) into line with demand by 1992; and

(f) Training of four more staff of the print shop to operate the offset presses by the end of 1993.

(iv) Continuous functions

373. These include the following:

(a) Planning, organization and servicing of meetings, including the provision of all conference facilities;

(b) Provision of interpretation services in the three working languages for meetings;

(c) Preparation of draft host country agreements for meetings held away from Addis Ababa;

(d) Translation of documentation into and from the three working languages for meetings, publications, official correspondence, etc.

(e) Provision of all composition and offset printing of selected secretariat reports and publications;

(f) Typing and proofreading in Arabic, English and French: and

(g) Reproduction and distribution of documents.

SUBPROGRAMME 33: ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMON SERVICES

374. The administrative and common services subprogramme is responsible for overall management of administrative services of the Commission. It consists of general services, financial administration including budgeting, disbursement accounting and reporting; library services, clinic services, security, electronic data processing (EDP) services, personnel services and finance. Buildings management is also part of this subprogramme.

375. During the plan period, the administrative services will focus mainly on het automation of secretarial services. The integrated management information system (IMIS) coupled with planned actions will ensure introduction of electronic

data processing for financial, personnel, procurement and supplies, security and buildings management functions and the maintenance of an archival service. In addition, language and staff training and development will continue as an integral part of the above activities and will be intensified.

(a) Legislative authority

376. The legislative authority for this subprogramme is derived from the United Nations Financial Regulations and Rules, Staff Rules and Regulations and General Assembly resolution 3043 (XXVII).

(b) Objectives

377. The objectives of this subprogramme are to:

(a) Plan, co-ordinate, monitor and evaluate the management of the administrative services;

(b) Ensure provision of auxiliary services for operation of the ECA secretariat;

(c) Plan, design, implement and maintain the automated data base system;

(d) Ensure sound formulation of the budgetary aspects of the biennial work programme;

(e) Maintain the secretariat's accounts and ensure timely action with respect to payments and reporting;

(f) Recruit personnel and implement appropriate staff rules and regulations on staff management relations within the framework of joint consultative machinery related to certain aspects of personnel administration;

(g) Provide and administer central services for staff travel and shipment, and procurement requirements of the secretariat in a cost-effective manner;

(h) Provide mailing and archival services;

(i) Provide reference and information services to ECA research staff and to continue building up a sound and comprehensive collection of literature on the economies of the African countries;

(j) Provide medical services and facilities to staff members and their recognized dependants;

(k) Provide security and safety services to staff members and their recognized dependants and for the property of the United Nations.

(c) Problems addressed

378. Among the most serious problems hampering efficient provision of administrative services in the ECA secretariat is a lack of modern equipment. In the whole of the United Nations Secretariat, ECA is the most backward in office equipment. While a humble start has been made with provision of word processor equipment to the typing unit, the rest of the secretariat still uses very

antiquated typewriters. There is therefore urgent need for automation of secretarial services throughout the secretariat including its five field offices - the MULPOCs.

379. The secretariat hitherto utilized the services of PADIS - a donor-funded project - to process some financial and personnel data. The bulk of the data is handled manually. This is a situation that is in urgent need of rectification if the secretariat is to function effectively.

380. Other units in the ECA secretariat, such as statistics, population, etc., rely on PADIS for the limited capacity which it is able to spare. Moreover, this limited capacity available today is threatened by the donors' apparent decision to stop support for PADIS. Therefore, what the secretariat needs is the establishment of a full-fledged electronic data processing facility to cater to its needs all round.

381. Concerning the security and safety service, again the major problem is lack of equipment. The service urgently needs more modern screening and detecting equipment including closed circuit television in the conference areas.

382. During the current biennium, there is budgetary provision for the modernization of the ECA telephone system. However, it is vital that the projected telephone modernization should include provision for ECA to be independent as experience has amply demonstrated. For that purpose, the procurement of a satellite dish would be highly appropriate.

383. As regards buildings management, ECA's efforts to achieve acceptable standards are badly hampered by an acute shortage of skilled manpower and equipment. It will be recalled that in realization of the problems facing the secretariat in this area, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/39/7/Add.2 in which it expressed concern at the deplorable standards of maintenance of the ECA premises and urged improvement. Consequent upon this, United Nations Headquarters, in conjunction with ECA, appointed a consultant who, inter alia, emphasized the need to strengthen the quantity and quality of the staff of the buildings management unit. Unfortunately, none of the major recommendations have been implemented. Therefore during the plan period it is intended to take measures to correct this situation.

(d) Strategy for the period 1992-1997

(i) Situation at the end of 1991

384. It is assumed that at the end of 1991 the financial position of the Organization will still be such as to necessitate continuation of maximum restraint in budgeting.

385. However, it is envisaged that the vacancy situation would have been brought down to more normal levels. In addition, the post reduction exercise would have been completed and office automation which will have been introduced in 1990-1991 will continue to improve the efficiency of operations in spite of reduction in manpower. At the same time, other office equipment which is generally very old will have to be replaced. This exercise will cover both ECA headquarters in Addis Ababa and the MULPOCs. For its computer services, the secretariat will still be relying on the PADIS Hewlett Packard 3000/58 which was purchased from extrabudgetary funds and which by 1991 will be in great need of replacement.

386. As regards maintenance, modernization of the three passenger lifts in the new extension building would have been completed. However, general maintenance standards of the ECA premises are likely to deteriorate as a result of the drastic cuts in the level of funds proposed for this purpose for the 1990-1991 biennium.

(ii) The period 1992-1997

387. Administrative services will continue to be provided in the areas of general administration and co-ordination, personnel management, clinic, security and safety, library, finance, general services and buildings management. Action will be taken to improve the security plan arrangements and to ensure efficient operation of the plan. Introduction of a new central computer, as part of the integrated management information system, will be carried out. On-the-job training of staff members is to be intensified, in particular the training of users in the operation of the integrated management information system. Office automation in the secretariat will be extended to those not yet covered by the end of 1986-1991 plan. Linkage of micro-computers into local area networks will be continued. Accounting systems and procedures will be reviewed to improve efficiency. The payroll will be fully computerized. Co-ordination and monitoring of field offices will be strengthened to eliminate problems in financial management. A deliberate scheme for staff career development will be worked out and implemented accordingly. Automation and computerization of all library activities including acquisitions, technical services, reader services, serial check lists will be completed. Procurement, inventory control, stores management, airline travel reservations will also be subjected to automation. Adequate and modern microfiche and microfilm reader printers will be purchased. The depreciation and replacement policies will be strictly enforced with regard to ECA official vehicles. In view of the scarcity of goods and services on the local market, there will continue to be a heavy reliance on importation during the plan period. This will in turn necessitate continued use of the port of Djibouti for most sea shipments and will necessitate the appointment of a clearing and forwarding agent at the port.